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BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

EDITED BY

R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

VOLUME X.

SESSION 1899-1900.

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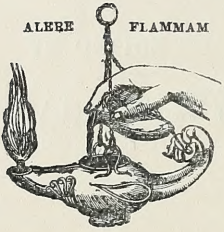
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PREFACE.

The preparation of the Index to the 'Bulletin' is the duty of the (I had nearly written "unfortunate") Editor, because it forms a kind of annual "holiday task" for him. The index to our tenth volume of the 'Bulletin' has certainly proved heavier than any of its predecessors, by reason of the greater number of quotations which the Editor has had to record, but it has, at the same time, been very satisfactory to him to note the increase in the number of contributions to our journal.

The exhibition of specimens illustrating the colour-variations of birds was in every respect a very remarkable one, mainly due to the extraordinary series which our esteemed member, the Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P., transported from his Museum at Tring; while many other members of the Club contributed from their private collections. The result was one of the most interesting exhibitions ever presented to the notice of a Scientific Society.

The memory of the pleasant evenings which the members of the Club have spent together, and of the solid work which has been a feature of our Eighth Session, is saddened by the decease of several of our friends. The loss of such energetic workers as St. George Mivart, John Cordeaux, and T. J. Monk is not only felt by the Club as a Scientific Institution, but it has taken away from some of the older members some very sincere friends and companions. The fortune of war also has deprived us of two excellent ornithologists, Dr. A. C. Stark and Colonel H. P. Northcott. The former was struck down by a Boer shell in Ladysmith, as he was quietly smoking a cigarette at 12 o'clock at night, and his death is nothing less than a national misfortune, as the first published volume of his 'Birds of South Africa' proves that whoever shall attempt to complete the work will have no easy task to rival the volume which our friend had written before his death. Colonel Northcott had made but one collection of birds in the Hinterland of the Gold Coast, and was full of enthusiam for future work. He was ordered off to South Africa on the outbreak of the Boer war, and had hardly reached his post on Lord Methuen's Staff, when he was killed at the Modder River.

(Signed) R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

October 1*st*, 1900.

RULES

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

(*As amended 20th April,* 1898.)

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session, shall cease, *ipso facto,* to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. Members of the British Ornithologists' Union may be introduced as Visitors at the Meetings of the Club, but every Member of the Club who introduces a Member of the B. O. U. as a Visitor (to dinner or to the Meeting afterwards) shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer, *on each occasion.*

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription.* Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*; with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter Bye-laws.

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[Members are requested to keep the Secretary informed of any changes in their addresses.]

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Witherby, H. F. Exhibition of a specimen of *Limosa lapponica* in down, xliv.

——. Exhibition of *Caprimulgus eximius* from Khartoum, cv.

Wright, C. A. *Turtur isabellinus* from Malta, xcvi.

ERRATA.

Page xlix, line 18, for "*M. batesiana*" read "*M. batesianus.*"
Page cvi, note, *add* "T. P."

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXV.

The sixty-fourth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of October, 1899.

Chairman: P. Crowley.

Members present:—B. Alexander, E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, A. F. Crossman, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), Dr. F. D. Drewitt, J. Gerrard, F. H. C. Gould, E. Hartert, Major A. P. Loyd, B. W. Martin, H. Munt, E. Neale, R. Nesham, E. W. Oates, C. E. Pearson, H. J. Pearson, F. Penrose, M.D., A. D. Sapsworth, H. Saunders, H. Scherren, F. C. Selous, F. Sharman, R. Bowdler Sharpe (*Editor*), W. B. Tegetmeier, H. M. Wallis, L. W. Wiglesworth, L. A. Williams, H. F. Witherby, A. F. R. Wollaston.

Visitor: C. B. Horsbrugh.

The Chairman stated that the Committee had suggested the following as Officers of the Club for this Session, and they were elected:—

Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. W. E. de Winton, in place of Mr. H. Saunders, who resigned.

New Members of Committee: Mr. E. Bidwell, in the place of Dr. F. Penrose, who retired by rotation; and Mr. E. Hartert, in the place of Mr. de Winton.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Vice-Chairmen { H. J. Pearson.
H. Saunders.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Howard Saunders for his services as Treasurer since the foundation of the Club was proposed by Mr. E. Bidwell, seconded by Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, and carried by acclamation.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild sent for exhibition a pair of *Eclectus westermanni*, Bp., and made the following remarks:—

"Dr. A. B. Meyer and Dr. Bowdler Sharpe have both expressed their opinion that *E. westermanni* is an aberration of *E. riedeli*, Meyer, produced by being kept in captivity; and consequently this idea has been generally adopted as a fact, in spite of the contrary opinion held by Count Salvadori in the 'Catalogue of Birds.'

"A few weeks ago a consignment of ten *Eclectus westermanni* arrived in London alive, of which six were males and four females, the latter sex being hitherto unknown. The discovery of the female disposes at once of the fiction that this excellent species could be an aberration of *E. riedeli*, for it has a blue collar and therefore belongs to the *E. roratus* section.

"The male differs from all the other species in being entirely green on the breast, while the others (including *E. riedeli*) have a large patch of red on the sides of breast. (Specimens of *E. roratus*, *E. pectoralis*, *E. cardinalis*, and *E. cornelia* were exhibited.)

"The female of *E. westermanni* is similar to the female of *E. pectoralis*, but differs in having a blue collar and dull purple lower breast, while *E. pectoralis* has both collar and breast of the same bright blue colour. The under tail-coverts are also of a much darker and duller red. The ring of blue round the eyes of *E. pectoralis* is also absent in *E. westermanni*. Both sexes are likewise much smaller than *E. pectoralis*."

Of the ten specimens mentioned above, Mr. Rothschild has three males and one female alive. The other six died, and a stuffed male and female were exhibited. Mr. Rothschild hoped to secure one more female, which had been mounted, but the remaining two males and one female had been destroyed.

The habitat of the species was still unknown.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild also exhibited specimens of all the species of *Pitta* belonging to the red-bellied section "*g*" of that genus in the 'Catalogue of Birds,' excepting *P. cæruleitorques,* which he did not possess. He observed :—

"Of all these forms, *Pitta rubrinucha* by its red nape, *P. kochi* by its large size, and *P. dohertyi* by its broad black pectoral collar and black ring round the neck, are the most distinct.

"The best known and the most widely distributed is probably *P. mackloti,* which inhabits nearly the whole of New Guinea, Waigiu, Salwatti, Mysol, and—according to Salvadori, Sclater, and others—also the Aru Islands, Cape York, New Britain, and the Key Islands. From the latter locality Count Salvadori had no adult specimens when he wrote his great work; but I have now a fine series, and find that the species is not *P. mackloti,* but as different as many of the other forms of this group. In *Pitta kuehni*—as I propose to name the form inhabiting the Key Islands and Koer—the blue of the chest extends over the sides of the chest and breast (where there is a green patch in *P. mackloti*) and is continued in a narrow blue ring round the upper back. The feathers on the sides of the chest appear to be somewhat more elongated than in *P. mackloti.* Adult birds have some blue on the crown—a character which is rather rare in *P. mackloti.*

"*Pitta finschi,* described by Ramsay from the Astrolabe Range, is the *Pitta* of the D'Entrecasteaux Islands; and Elliot is quite wrong in placing *P. finschi* as a synonym of *P. cyanonota* from Ternate. The latter has the head reddish brown, the throat pale brown, while *P. finschi* is rightly described by Ramsay as having the head dark reddish chocolate-brown and the throat black, and the measurements are much larger. The locality 'Astrolabe Range' is probably wrong.

"*P. loriæ*, Salvad., is another form which has hitherto been very little known. It differs from *P. mackloti* in its uniform dark-brown head, nape, and hind-neck. It occurs near Milne Bay, S.E. New Guinea, where it seems to replace the common *P. mackloti*. The green-backed females of his *P. finschi* mentioned by Ramsay, and considered by Finsch to belong to *P. mackloti*, were most likely specimens of *P. loriæ*.

"*Pitta novæ-hibernicæ* from New Hanover and New Ireland has been wrongly confused with *P. mackloti*.

"*P. palliceps* is certainly very closely allied to *P. celebensis*, and the distinctness of *P. propinqua* from *P. erythrogastra* is very doubtful."

Mr. Rothschild also sent for exhibition a specimen of an Oyster-catcher, which he proposed to call :—

"HÆMATOPUS REISCHEKI, sp. n.

"♂ *ad.* Differs from *H. longirostris*, Vieill., and *H. finschi*, Martens, at first sight in having the lower back and rump black and not white, and the upper tail-coverts being mixed black and white, not white. The bill is much longer than in a series of twenty-three specimens of *H. longirostris* in the Tring Museum, and appears stouter than in New Zealand specimens.

"Culmen 102 mm., wing 270, tarsus 60.

"*H. longirostris*, ♂ *ad.* Culmen 75–85 mm., wing 245–255, tarsus 55.

"The type was shot in June 1885 at Kaiparu, New Zealand, by A. Reischek.

"*H. finschi* of Martens (Orn. Monatsb. 1897, p. 190) appears from the description to agree with two birds collected by Baron von Hügel at Freshwater Creek, Canterbury, New Zealand, and another from Kaipoi, Canterbury. These birds, however, vary among themselves in the amount of white on the quills, which is the distinction given by Herr Martens; and this variation in the amount of white leads me to consider that his *H. finschi* and the three birds from Baron von Hügel are only aberrations of *H. longirostris*."

Mr. Ernst Hartert recorded the occurrence of a specimen of *Grallina picata* on the little island of Koer in the Key group.

Mr. Hartert also exhibited the types of three new birds collected near Gambaga, Gold Coast Hinterland, which he named and characterized as follows:—

Cossypha giffardi, sp. n.

Similar to *C. albicapilla* from Senegambia, but differing in having much narrower white tips to the feathers of the crown and occiput, so that these parts do not appear white, but black with white crescentic bars. Wings and tail longer than in *C. albicapilla*. Wing 135–137 mm., tail 145–148. Sexes alike. This form is probably a representative of *C. albicapilla*.

Heliocorys modesta giffardi, sp. n.

Closely allied to *H. modesta*, of which it is evidently only a sub-species, but differs in being altogether paler and more sandy in coloration; the breast is less heavily spotted with black, the underside paler, the wing 2 or 3 mm. shorter.

Bessonornis (? Cossypha) gambagæ, sp. n.

Very similar to *Bessonornis modesta*, Shelley, from Nyasaland, but differing in its rusty rufous flanks and under tail-coverts. The lateral rectrices have not a complete bar across the tips, but only an elongate blackish mark on the outer webs and a small blackish spot on the inner web of the outermost rectrix. The wing-quills and larger wing-coverts have pale rusty-brown edges, and the upper surface is paler. Wing and tail 3 or 4 mm. shorter.

Mr. C. B. Horsbrugh exhibited a series of photographs of nests and eggs taken on the Smölen Islands and in the

Sundal Valley in Northern Norway. An interesting series of the nests of *Fringilla montifringilla* and *F. cælebs* from the latter locality was also shown.

Mr. Scherren exhibited photographs of a young Cuckoo taken at two separate stages of its work of ejecting a young Titlark from a nest. Though the fact of such ejection has been well established, the photographs were of considerable interest as supplying incontrovertible evidence on the subject. The nest was found and watched by Mr. John Craig, a Scotch amateur naturalist, and the photographs were kindly sent by Mr. Peat Millar, of Beith, N.B., for exhibition.

On the proposition of Mr. H. J. Pearson it was unanimously agreed that a "lantern" evening should be held at the meeting in January next.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe read a letter from Dr. J. von Madarász and exhibited a specimen of the Pale Swift, *Apus murinus* (Brehm), which he had shot near Fiume. The specimen was decidedly small, as were all those procured by Dr. von Madarász, but Dr. Sharpe stated that similar small individuals were to be noted from Spain and other portions of the bird's range.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe exhibited some interesting specimens of birds obtained by Colonel Henry P. Northcott at Gambaga and in the Hinterland of the Gold Coast. The following was a list of the species met with by Colonel Northcott, and a reference is given to the page of Prof. Reichenow's well-known paper on the adjoining country of Togo-Land ("Zur Vogelfauna von Togo," J. f. O. 1897, pp. 1–57) :—

From Gambaga :

1. *Turtur semitorquatus* (p. 6) ; 2. *Francolinus albigularis* ; 3. *Ptilopachys fuscus* (p. 9) ; 4. *Pæocephalus versteri* (p. 13) ; 5. *Musophaga violacea* (p. 13) ; 6. *Schizorhis africanus* (p. 14) ; 7. *Centropus senegalensis* (p. 14) ; 8. *Pogonorhynchus*

dubius (p. 17); 9. *Campothera punctata* (p. 18); 10. *Mesopicus goertan* (p. 18); 11. *Halcyon chelicuti* (p. 21); 12. *Halcyon forbesi* (p. 21); 13. *Macrodipteryx macrodipterus* (p. 24); 14. *Irrisor senegalensis* (p. 24); 15. *Melænornis edoloides*; 16. *Elminia longicauda* (p. 27); 17. *Terpsiphone cristata* (*T. viridis*, p. 27); 18. *Prionops plumatus* (p. 30); 19. *Dryoscopus gambensis* (p. 31); 20. *Laniarius poliocephalus* (p. 32); 21. *Telephonus senegalus* (p. 32); 22. *Lanius gubernator*; 23. *Corvinella corvina* (p. 34); 24. *Buchanga assimilis*; 25. *Oriolus auratus* (p. 35); 26. *Lamprocolius purpureus* (p. 35); 27. *Pholidauges leucogaster* (p. 36); 28. *Sitagra brachyptera* (p. 36); 29. *Hyphantornis cucullatus* (p. 37); 30. *Pytelia hypogrammica*; 31. *Estrilda phœnicotis* (*E. bengala*, p. 39); 32. *Pyromelana flammiceps* (p. 40); 33. *Petronia dentata*; 34. *Serinus icterus* (*S. butyraceus*, p. 41); 35. *Pycnonotus barbatus* (p. 43); 36. *Cinnyris senegalensis* (p. 46); 37. *Parus leucopterus* (p. 47); 38. *Crateropus reinwardti* (p. 48, Taf. ii. fig. 2).

At Walembele, Colonel Northcott obtained *Palæornis docilis* and *Melittophagus pusillus*.

One of the most remarkable species exhibited was *Lanius gubernator*, Hartl. J. f. O. 1882, p. 323, Taf. i. fig. 2, which was previously known only from Equatorial Africa.

Mr. J. L. Bonhote exhibited a series of adult skins of the Red-throated Diver (*Colymbus septentrionalis*) showing the various stages of the moult, and pointing out that the species had a distinct autumn dress before the moult, which was assumed by a regular abrasion during the latter end of the breeding-season. From the immature specimens Mr. Bonhote pointed out that they moulted straight into their adult dress, probably during their second winter.

Mr. Bonhote also exhibited two specimens in moult of the Great Northern Diver (*Colymbus glacialis*), showing that in this species the new feathers which grow at the autumn moult are at first greyish, and assume immediately, by change of colour, the characteristic dark background with white spots.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 22nd of November, 1899, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

PHILIP CROWLEY,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	W. E. DE WINTON,
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Sec. & Treas.*

[N.B.—The Editor would be much obliged if his brother ornithologists who have papers to read or specimens to exhibit at any meeting of the Club would kindly give him notice of the same a few days before the meeting, in order that the communications may appear on the Chairman's "Agenda." *This is the second time of asking.*—R. B. S.]

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXVII.

The sixty-sixth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 13th of December, 1899.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, Abel Chapman, A. F. Crossman, Philip Crowley, F. H. Carruthers Gould, W. R. Ogilvie Grant, E. Hartert, C. J. Hose, J. Graham Kerr, G. E. Lodge, P. H. Munn, R. Nesham, H. J. Pearson, E. Lort Phillips, Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P., R. Bowdler Sharpe (*Editor*), E. Cavendish Taylor, N. F. Ticehurst, H. M. Wallis, Johnson Wilkinson, L. A. Williams, L. W. Wiglesworth, W. E. de Winton (*Sec. & Treas.*), H. F. Witherby.

Visitors: J. C. Chapman, C. E. Fagan, E. Moberley, Theed Pearse, Henry Stevens.

The Chairman referred in feeling terms to the loss which ornithological science had sustained by the death of Dr. A. C. Stark, who had been killed by a shell during the recent fighting at Ladysmith in Natal, whither he had repaired to render medical aid to the wounded soldiers.

A vote of condolence to the relatives of the deceased naturalist was unanimously passed by the Meeting.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe also alluded to the untimely death of Colonel Henry P. Northcott, during the first battle on the Modder River. A list of the birds obtained by the deceased officer in the hinterland of the Gold Coast had recently appeared in the 'Bulletin' (*anteà,* pp. vi, vii).

The Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P., exhibited a pair of the rare *Eupetes geislerorum,* A. B. Meyer.

This species had been described from German New Guinea by Dr. Meyer, and had not before been seen in any English collection, having hitherto been known only from the types in the Dresden Museum. The species was remarkable for the different colour of the sexes; and examples collected by Mr. A. S. Meek at Collingwood Bay, in the northern portion of British New Guinea, were laid on the table.

Mr. E. Hartert described a new species of Weaver-Finch from Equatorial Africa as follows:—

Pytelia ansorgei, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Upper surface yellowish olive, rather greener on the wings; head black; quills blackish, externally olive-green; tail-feathers black, the outer ones rather more greyish black, the central feathers edged with green towards the base; breast, abdomen, and under tail-coverts dark grey, the sides of the chest yellowish olive; under wing-coverts and inner margins of quills white.

Hab. Wemo River, Toru, Uganda Protectorate (*Dr. Ansorge*).

Obs. The nearest ally is apparently *Pytelia sharpei,* but the black head and other differences in the plumage easily distinguish this new species.

Mr. Hartert also pointed out that, although Dr. Bowdler Sharpe was undoubtedly right in recognizing three forms of small *Melittophagi* in Africa, in contrast to the opinion of Mr. Dresser with respect to *M. pusillus* and its allies, there could be no doubt that the former author had misapplied the

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXX.

THE sixty-ninth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of March, 1900.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—BOYD ALEXANDER, E. BIDWELL, F. E. BLAAUW, J. L. BONHOTE, W. F. BROCKHOLES, A. F. CROSSMAN, P. CROWLEY, W. E. DE WINTON (*Treasurer*), H. E. DRESSER, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, H. J. ELWES, F.R.S., E. N. F. FENWICK, H. O. FORBES, LL.D., F. H. CARRUTHERS GOULD, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARTERT, J. GRAHAM KERR, G. E. LODGE, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, HEATLEY NOBLE, F. PENROSE, M.D., T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., H. L. POPHAM, R. H. READ, Hon. W. ROTHSCHILD, M.P., F. C. SELOUS, F. SHARMAN, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D. (*Editor*), L. WILLIAMS.

Visitors: T. F. ALTHAUS, W. GOODFELLOW, C. HAMILTON, W. E. D. SCOTT (Princeton, U.S.A., *Guest of the Club*), E. A. WILSON.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited an adult specimen of the so-called *Aquila fulvescens*, shot by Herr Führer in Albania, together with a young bird obtained about the same time and place. For comparison he placed on the table adult and young birds of the Great Spotted Eagle (*Aquila maculata*) and the Small Spotted Eagle (*Aquila pomarina*), and made the following remarks:—"The name *Aquila fulvescens* has hitherto been bestowed on Indian specimens, and this form has, up to the present time, been admitted by British ornithologists to be a well-marked and distinct species. The late Eugen von Homeyer described a European example under the name of *Aquila boecki*, and since then, including the one exhibited to-night, three more examples have been recorded from Europe. Mr. Hartert, Dr. Otto Reiser (*in litt.*), and several other naturalists have more than once drawn attention to the exactly similar proportions and external characters existing between *Aquila maculata* and *Aquila fulvescens*, the only difference being in the colour of the plumage, and they have suggested that *A. boecki* might be a more or less constant aberration of *Aquila maculata*.

"I think that the young bird exhibited will convince most ornithologists, as it has myself, that *Aquila fulvescens* is really a parallel 'aberration' to the light forms of the Common Buzzard, *Buteo buteo*, and that it is not a good species. This young bird has the upper and under tail-coverts, as well as the feathers of the leg and thigh, of the same pale buff colour, and in these markings it resembles the adult *Aquila fulvescens*; while the rest of its plumage is identical with typical young of *Aquila maculata*. A further proof is that a few examples of the Indian Little Spotted Eagle (*A. hastata*) show a tendency to have large buff areas of plumage. I therefore consider that there are only three species of Spotted Eagles with round nostrils, viz.: 1. *Aquila maculata*, 2. *Aquila pomarina*, 3. *Aquila hastata*. It follows, therefore, that *Aquila fulvescens* must be sunk as a species and must stand as *Aquila maculata*, aberr. *fulvescens*."

Mr. Rothschild exhibited a series of birds from the island of S. Thomé, in the Bight of Benin, and made remarks on some of the species which were peculiar to the island.

He also called the attention of the meeting to some remarkable specimens of *Phalacrocorax chalconotus*, illustrating the breeding-plumage of the species, with the tufts of white filamentous plumes above the eyes. The young birds had formerly been described as *Phalacrocorax glaucus*, but specimens in intermediate stages of plumage in the Tring Museum showed that *P. glaucus* and *P. chalconotus* were identical.

Mr. Rothschild exhibited specimens of the Balkan Shore-Lark (*Otocorys balcanica*).

He also exhibited a specimen of a young bird of *Urubitinga urubitinga*, which had been captured by Mr. André at a distance of 200 yards inside the great cave of the *Steatornis*, at Caripé in Venezuela.

Mr. Ernst Hartert described a new Spine-tailed Swift as follows:—

Chætura thomensis, sp. n.

This remarkable new species of *Chætura* is smaller than all the other African species, and the wings, though fully as long as those of *Chætura sabinei*, are much narrower, softer, and weaker. It is doubtless the bird mentioned by Mr. Newton, of Lisbon, as *Ch. cassini*, but no specimen appears to have been procured by him. *Ch. cassini* is much larger, and has a much shorter and stiffer tail than *Ch. thomensis*, and *Ch. sabinei* has a much broader wing, and its under and upper tail-coverts are so much elongated as to cover the rectrices above and below, while in *Ch. thomensis* they leave nearly 2 cm. above and about 1 cm. below uncovered.

Ch. thomensis is black above, including the wings and tail, with greenish and steel-blue reflections. Throat and breast dull greyish black, without gloss. Abdomen white, with dull black shaft-lines to the feathers. Upper and under tail-coverts white, with broad black shaft-streaks; the longest upper tail-coverts almost entirely brownish black. Under wing-coverts black. Total length about 105 mm. (from tip of bill to end of tail), wing 116–117, tail 43, the bare tarso-metatarsus 8·5 mm.

Three adult specimens were procured at Pedroma on the island of San Thomé, W. Africa, by Mr. Albert Mocquerys.

Mr. W. E. D. Scott exhibited a series of interesting photographs of the nests of the Spine-tailed Swift of North America (*Chætura pelasgia*), showing the growth of the nestlings at different periods of their advancement in age. He also gave some interesting details of the habits of the species. The photographs had been rendered possible by the removal of the sides of the chimney in his own house, so as to reveal the nests *in situ*.

Mr. Scott also contributed the following notes on three new species of *Tyrannidæ* from Patagonia, specimens of which he placed before the meeting:—

"The descriptions of these birds, apparently heretofore unknown, are based on material collected in Patagonia by Mr. J. B. Hatcher. Mr. Hatcher was sent on a scientific mission to the above region by the University of Princeton, New Jersey, U.S.A. The study of the geology of the country and the collection of palæontological specimens were the chief objects of this expedition, but the collection of about one thousand birds clearly indicates that the existing fauna was in no way neglected. All of this ornithological material is now at the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, whither I have brought the specimens by the direction of Princeton University, the British Museum being the only place where adequate comparisons can be made. A monograph in detail will be the ultimate result of this work, and in the meantime diagnoses of such birds as appear to be undescribed will be communicated to the British Ornithologists' Club.

"**Muscisaxicola garretti**, sp. n.

"♂. Fronte nigro: pileo reliquo castaneo: hypochondriis et subcaudalibus pallide cinnamomeis. Long. tot. circa 6·4 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 4·3, caudæ 2·55, tarsi 1·2.

"♀. Mari similis. Alæ 4·4 poll.

"*Hab.* Near Coy Inlet, Patagonia, October 1896. Princeton University Collection, Nos. 7643, 7644.

"This species is named after Mr. John W. Garrett, of Baltimore, Maryland, in appreciation of the assistance which he has rendered to the expeditions sent to Patagonia.

"MUSCISAXICOLA HATCHERI, sp. n.

"♂. Similis *M. griseæ,* sed magis brunnescens: linea frontali alba, et remigibus albo fasciatim apicatis distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 6·5 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 5·0, caudæ 2·75, tarsi 1·3.

"*Hab.* Cordillera, Upper Rio Chico, Patagonia, 18 February, 1897. Princeton University Collection, No. 7645.

"This species is named after Mr. J. B. Hatcher, whose work in Patagonia has contributed so largely to our knowledge of the past and present fauna of that country.

"AGRIORNIS POLIOSOMA, sp. n.

"♂. Similis *A. maritimæ,* sed plumbescenti-brunneus: gastræo quoque plumbescenti-brunneo: subcaudalibus albis: crisso vix cervino tincto: gutture albo, distincte nigro striolato: fascia superciliari alba distincta: maculâ lorali nigrâ: genis albis, nigro striatis: caudæ pro 1·0 poll. ad apicem albo terminata. Long. tot. 9·3 poll., culm. 1·15, alæ 5·3, caudæ 4·0, tarsi 1·3.

"*Hab.* Arroyo Gio, Patagonia, 20 May, 1898. Princeton University Collection, No. 7927.

"This species is closely allied to *A. maritima,* but is distinguished by its leaden-brown plumage and *white* superciliary streaks, as well as by the increased amount of white on the tail-feathers."

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited a specimen of the rare *Bubo letti,* Büttik., from the Rio Benito, French Congo, obtained by Mr. G. L. Bates. The species had been originally described by Dr. Büttikofer from Liberia, and was placed by him in the genus *Bubo.* The specimen, however, had been examined by Mr. Pycraft for its pterylography, and Dr. Sharpe, judging by its external characters, concurred with him that it belonged to the genus *Scops,* and should be known as *Scops letti* (Büttik.).

Another interesting bird procured by Mr. Bates was a white-spotted Crake, which did not seem to be quite the same as *Canirallus oculeus* of the Gold Coast. It was identical, however, with the bird from the Cameroons, and Dr. Sharpe had already referred (Cat. B. xxiii. p. 73) to the differences exhibited by the birds of the latter country. He therefore proposed to describe the Crake from the French Congo and the Cameroons as

CANIRALLUS BATESI, sp. n.

Ad. Similis *C. oculeo,* sed saturatior, dorso saturatè olivascenti-brunneo, nec virescenti-olivaceo: pileo sordidè brunneo, nec rufescenti-brunneo: fronte et facie laterali, sicut in *C. oculeo,* cinereis, regione auriculari quoque cinereo. Long. tot. 11·0 poll., culm. 1·35, alæ 6·3, caudæ 2·4, tarsi 1·95.

Among other interesting birds obtained on the Rio Benito on the same occasion were examples of *Bubulcus lucidus* and *Calopelia brehmeri.*

Dr. SHARPE likewise exhibited a specimen of a Goshawk from British Guiana, from the collection of Mr. F. V. McConnell. Feeling sure that it was *Astur jardinii* of Gurney (Ibis, 1887, p. 96, pl. iii.), Dr. Sharpe had sent the specimen to Mr. James Reeve, the Director of the Castle Museum at Norwich, for comparison with the type and unique example of the species in that museum. Mr. Reeve stated that the Guiana example was identical with the type of *A. jardinii,* and therefore the habitat of the species, previously unknown, was now identified as Guiana.

Mr. OGILVIE GRANT, on behalf of Mr. C. B. Rickett, exhibited a very distinct new species of Scops Owl, for which Mr. Rickett proposed the name of

SCOPS LATOUCHI, sp. n.

Adult male. This species belongs to the yellow-billed group of the genus *Scops,* and is apparently most nearly allied to *S. icterorhyncha,* Shelley, from the Gold Coast, and more distantly related to *S. rufescens* (Horsf.), from Malacca and the Sunda Islands. The pale frontal band is, however, less conspicuous than in the above-named species. *Scops latouchii* differs chiefly from *S. icterorhyncha* in having the feathers of the head and mantle distinctly barred with black and rufous buff; but the barring is mostly concealed by the wide reddish-brown tips to the feathers, which are very finely vermiculated with black; the tail is rather strongly marked with irregular bars and mottlings of black on a brownish-red ground; the bars on the outermost primaries are rufous buff instead of white; the underparts are whitish buff, shading into rufous on the upper breast and flanks, entirely devoid of dark shaft-streaks, but very finely vermiculated with brownish black; the feathers covering the basal part of the belly, vent, and the longish flank-plumes are pure white, some of the latter, like the under tail-coverts, having reddish-brown bars.

Total length about 9·0 inches, wing 5·9, tail 3·5, tarsus 1·15.

Hab. Ah Ch'ung, Fohkien, 16th December, 1899.

Mr. Digby Pigott communicated a note from his friend Mr. J. R. Dasent, C.B., who had just returned from his yearly visit to the island of St. Vincent, West Indies.

Mr. Dasent stated that the destruction of bird-life of all kinds by the hurricane of September 1898 had been very great. A small bronze-green Humming-bird, which had before been the commonest and boldest bird in the island, had, it was believed, entirely disappeared. During the seven weeks of Mr. Dasent's stay he had not noticed one of these birds, though on previous visits they were to be seen, sitting on telephone wires &c., and as plentiful as Swallows in summer in England. Mr. Thompson, the Administrator, had told him that since the hurricane he had neither himself, nor had he met with anyone who had, observed one of these birds. Two other Humming-birds, formerly less common than the extinguished species, still exist in the island, but in much reduced numbers.

A Parrot, usually to be found only with difficulty in the mountain forests, and a Pigeon (known locally as "Ramier")—also an exceptionally shy bird—after the hurricane, came about, and even into, the towns in search of food, in large numbers (the Parrots singly, the Pigeons in small parties), many of them in such an exhausted state as to be easily caught by hand.

Mr. Sclater called attention to the Report of the Society for the Protection of Birds, of which he was one of the Vice-Presidents, as adopted at the Anniversary Meeting on 26th February last. Mr. Sclater was quite in accord with the general objects of this Society as explained in their prospectus, although, as regards protective legislation, he was of opinion that interference in this matter by Acts of Parliament might be sometimes carried too far. He thought, however, that every lover of birds would do well to join the Society.

Mr. Sclater stated that Messrs. Goodfellow and Hamilton (who were present as guests on this occasion) had lately returned from a successful expedition in the Colombian and Equatorian Andes, during which they had made a collection of upwards of 5000 bird-skins, comprising examples of many rare species. The travellers had landed at Buenoventura on the Pacific Coast in April 1898, and had thence crossed the Andes into the valley of the Cauca. This was ascended, and, passing through Popayan, Messrs. Goodfellow and Hamilton had entered the Republic of Ecuador at Tulcan, proceeding thence to Quito, where a lengthened stay was made. From Quito excursions were effected to Pichincha, and to the low country on the Pacific Coast near Santo Domingo. Leaving Quito on March 1st last year, Messrs. Goodfellow and Hamilton crossed the Andes to the upper waters of the Napo, and descended that river in canoes to Yquitos in Peru, whence the journey home was effected by steamer.

Mr. Goodfellow was preparing an account of the birds collected during this remarkable journey for ‘The Ibis.’ In the meanwhile Mr. Sclater called attention to two noticeable specimens. One of these was an example of a male Fruit-Crow (*Gymnoderus fœtidus*) in fully adult plumage.

Sclater exhibited a coloured drawing, taken from the specimen by Mr. Hamilton, of the head of this bird, ing the extraordinary development of the pale blue tles of the neck, which had never been correctly reprented or described, and were so different in appearance from rdinary specimens of this bird that Mr. Sclater had, at first, een inclined to regard the Ecuador bird as a distinct species. The second bird exhibited was an example of the little-known *Myiadestes coracinus*, Berlepsch, from the forests of the Upper Napo.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 25th of April, 1900, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, at 8.30 P.M.; the Dinner at 7 o'clock.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, *Chairman.*
R. BOWDLER SHARPE, *Editor.*
W. E. DE WINTON, *Sec. & Treas.*

SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE next Meeting of the Club will be entirely devoted to the exhibition of albino and other colour-variations of Birds. The Hon. Walter Rothschild, who probably possesses the finest collection of "varieties" of birds in this country, will on this occasion exhibit some of the most notable examples from his Museum. Members of the B. O. C. and their friends are also requested to bring every available specimen of colour-variation, so that the exhibition may be rendered as successful as have been the previous ones held under the auspices of the British Ornithologists' Club.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXI.

The seventieth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 25th of April, 1900.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—O. V. Aplin, G. E. Barrett-Hamilton, E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, W. Fitzherbert Brockholes, A. F. Crossman, Philip Crowley, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, F. D. Drewitt, M.D., F. W. Frohawk, J. Gerrard, F. H. C. Gould, W. R. Ogilvie Grant, E. Hartert, G. E. Lodge, A. H. Macpherson, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, J. G. Millais, H. C. Monro, R. Nesham, H. Noble, E. W. Oates, C. E. Pearson, H. J. Pearson, T. Digby Pigott, C.B., W. P. Pycraft, R. H. Read, A. D. Sapsworth, H. Scherren, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), W. B. Tegetmeier, Major H. Terry, N. F. Ticehurst, W. F. Urwick, Watkin Watkins, J. Wilkinson, Charles Whymper, A. F. R. Wollaston, C. A. Wright.

Visitors: R. S. Archbould, H. Rowland Brown, W. R. Collins, C. E. Fagan, A. S. Hargreaves, K. E. Mackenzie, E. S. Mason, L. S. Pawles, Theed Pearse, C. J. Schillings (German Expert in the Conference on the Preservation of Large Game of Africa, *Guest of the Club*), W. E. D. Scott (Princeton, U.S.A.), A. Thorburn, O. Thomas.

Mr. W. E. D. Scott described the following apparently new or hitherto undetected species of birds from South America. Some of these birds had been procured by Mr. J. B. Hatcher in Patagonia, but most of them were previously represented in the collection of the British Museum.

CINCLODES OUSTALETI, sp. n.

Similis *C. patachonico,* sed multo minor, et abdomine medio albo distinguendus: alâ 3·55 nec 4·1, culmine 0·8 nec 1·0. Suprà chocolatino-brunneus, pileo dorso concolori: subtùs chocolatinus, nec grisescens, et minùs distinctè striatus. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 3·7, caudæ 2·5, tarsi 1·05.

Hab. Chili and Mendoza. [Type *ex* Central Chili: *Berkeley James Coll., Mus. Brit.*]

CINCLODES MOLITOR.

♂. Similis *C. oustaleti,* sed major et subtùs albido sparsim striatus, notæo et hypochondriis chocolatino-brunneis, sed abdomine brunneo nec albo et subcaudalibus albo striatis distinguendus. Long. tot. 7·5 poll., culm. 0·95, alæ 4·0, caudæ 3·0, tarsi 1·1.

Hab. Chili. [Type *ex* Chili (*Leybold*): *Salvin-Godman Coll., Mus. Brit.*]

CINCLODES OREOBATES, sp. n.

♂. Similis *C. fusco,* sed rufescentior: pectore fusco obscurè marmorato nec albido distinctè striolato: hypochondriis et subcaudalibus et rectricum apicibus rufescentibus nec grisescenti-brunneis: gutture albo, vix fusco fasciatim notato. Long. tot. 6·8 poll., culm. 0·85, alæ 3·9, caudæ 2·7, tarsi 1·2.

Hab. Colombia. [Type *ex* Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta, Colombia (*F. A. A. Simons*): *Sclater Coll., Mus. Brit.*]

CINCLODES SPARSIM-STRIATUS, sp. n.

♂. Similis *C. nigrofumoso,* sed subtùs vix albo striolatus, et gutture fusco, sordidè isabellino striato facile distinguendus. Long. tot. 8·7 poll., culm. 1·0, alæ 4·5, caudæ 3·2, tarsi 1·2.

Hab. Peru. [Type *ex* Islay (*H. Whitely*): *Sclater Coll., Mus. Brit.*]

UPUCERTHIA DARWINI, sp. n.

♂. Similis *U. dumetoriæ*, sed ubique rufescentior, alis caudaque præcipue rufescentibus: rectricibus medianis rufescentibus nec griseo-brunneis distinguendus. Long. tot. 8·2 poll., culm. 1·35, alæ 3·9, caudæ 3·15, tarsi 1·05.

Hab. Mendoza, Arg. Rep. [*Salvin-Godman Coll., Mus. Brit.*]

UPUCERTHIA SATURATIOR, sp. n.

U. similis *U. dumetoriæ*, sed saturatior, hypochondriis concoloribus minimè striolatim notatis: suprà chocolatino-brunnea, regione parotica cervino nec albido striolata. Long. tot. 7·5, culm. 1·25, alæ 3·8, caudæ 3·0, tarsi 1·0.

Hab. Chile. [Type *ex* Central Chili: *Berkeley James Coll., Mus. Brit.*]

UPUCERTHIA FITZGERALDI, sp. n.

♀. *U.* similis *U. validirostri*, sed caudâ nigricanti-brunneâ nec rufescente, gutture albido, plumis angustè fusco fasciatim marginatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 8·2 poll., culm. 1·5, alæ 3·9, caudæ 2·75, tarsi 1·05.

Hab. Puerte del Inca, Arg. Rep., March 9, 1897 (*E. A. Fitzgerald, Mus. Brit.*).

GEOSITTA BREVIROSTRIS, sp. n.

♀. Similis *G. cunculariæ*, sed rostro multo breviore (0·65, minimè 0·8), alâ tamen longiore (4·20 nec 3·75), supracaudalibus lactescenti-albis, alâ minimè extus rufescente distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·0 poll., caudæ 2·25, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Mt. Tigre, Patagonia, Aug. 14, 1896. [Type in Mus. Princeton, No. 7769.] Central Chili (*Berkeley James Coll., Mus. Brit.*).

HENICORNIS WALLISI, sp. n.

♀. Similis *H. phœnicuræ*, sed major, rostro longiore et alâ breviore, rectricibus medianis brunneis nec basaliter castaneis distinguenda. Long. tot. 7·0 poll., culm. 0·95, alæ 2·9, caudæ 2·65, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Arroyo Eke, Patagonia, May 24, 1898. [Type in Mus. Princeton, No. 7939.] Chuput (*H. Durnford, Mus. Brit.*).

Named in honour of Harrison P. Wallis, Esq., of Brooklyn, N.Y.

AGRIORNIS LEUCURUS, sp. n.

(*Agriornis leucurus*, Gould, Voy. 'Beagle,' Birds, pl. xiii. *nomen nudum.*)

Similis *A. maritimo*, sed minor, multò saturatior, et rostro longiore distinguendus. Suprà sordidè brunnescens nec cinerascenti-brunneus: corpore subtùs brunnescentiore, abdomine vix pallidiore. Long. tot. 8·5 poll., culm. 1·15, alæ 4·65, caudæ 3·2, tarsi 1·35. [Type in Mus. Brit. *ex* Port Desire (*C. Darwin*).]

PHRYGILUS PRINCETONIANUS, sp. n.

♂. Similis *P. melanodero*, sed minor: suprà grisescens, vix viridi lavatus: pileo et facie laterali clarè cinereis: palpebrâ, regione post-oculari, et strigâ latâ mystacali albis: plagâ lorali et gutture toto nigris: subtùs lætè flavus: alâ totâ conspicuè lætè flavâ, tectricibus primariorum nigro terminatis. Long. tot. 5·6 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 3·6, caudæ 2·4, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Cheike, Patagonia, Jan. 16, 1898. [Type in Mus. Princeton, No. 7698.]

Mr. SCLATER exhibited a third set of photographs of rare Australian birds' nests and eggs which had been forwarded to him by Mr. D. Le Souëf, of Melbourne. Amongst these were figures of the nests and eggs of several little-known Honey-eaters, also those of the *Oreœca cristata* and the suspended nest of Kaup's Flycatcher (*Arses kaupi*).

After a few remarks from Mr. HARTERT and Mr. J. G. MILLAIS on the exhibition of albinos and colour-variations of birds, a vote of thanks to the Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD and the other gentlemen who had brought together such a fine series of specimens for the entertainment of the Club was proposed by Mr. W. E. DE WINTON, and carried with acclamation.

The Meeting then adjourned to the large banqueting-hall of the Restaurant, and the rest of the evening was spent in examining the specimens, most of which had been brought by Mr. Rothschild from his Museum at Tring.

A full account of this exhibition will be given in a supplementary number of the Bulletin. The Editor will feel

obliged to any members who showed specimens if they will kindly send him a few notes on the history of the birds exhibited.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 16th of May, 1900, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, *Chairman.* R. BOWDLER SHARPE, *Editor.* W. E. DE WINTON, *Sec. & Treas.*

NOTICE.

THE Annual Meeting of the B. O. U. having been fixed this year for MAY 16th, the same day as the monthly meeting of the B. O. C., it has been arranged by the Committees of the two associations that the usual annual dinner of the B. O. U. shall not take place, but that those members of the B. O. U. who are not members of the B. O. C. shall be invited to dine at the dinner of the B. O. C. at the Restaurant Frascati on that day (at 7 P.M.) as Honorary Members and attend the subsequent meeting of the Club at 8.30 P.M. Those members of the B. O. U. who wish to do this are requested to send in their names to Mr. W. E. DE WINTON, the Sec. and Treasurer of the B. O. C. (Address: 7, Southampton Row, W.C.)

[The following is a brief abstract of the exhibits at the Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Club on April 25, 1900.—*R. B. S.*]

Mr. Ernst Hartert exhibited, on behalf of the Hon. Walter Rothschild (who was, to his great regret, unable to be present at the Meeting), a very large selection of the numerous albinos, melanisms, and other colour-variations in the Tring Museum. He explained that he had tried to exhibit as many species as possible, but of nearly all the common European birds, especially of the Passeres, there were many more examples of colour-variation in Mr. Rothschild's Museum. The most interesting and the most different types of varieties were, however, exhibited on the present occasion. Mr. Rothschild wished to call attention to the fact that nearly all, if not all, green birds showed yellow varieties; for example, all the green Parrots. The grey Parrot, on the other hand, had white varieties. In the *Chlorodrepanis* of the Sandwich Islands, and even in the green portions of the plumage of other birds, yellow varieties predominated, instead of white, in albinistic individuals, as shown by various specimens on view. This seemed to suggest that the yellow pigment was extremely strong, and the same might be said of the red colouring, inasmuch as it often remained quite normal or only became paler in otherwise quite albinistic specimens (*cf.* the albino grey Parrot with a red tail, the white Bullffinches with red under surface, the Texan Cardinal, *Rhamphocœlus brasilius*, and others). There were, of course, also exceptions, as exhibited by the grey Parrot now deposited by Mr. Rothschild in the Zoological Gardens, which had its normal grey plumage, but had a white tail.

Mr. Hartert further called attention to the vital difference between true albinos, which were born white, and in which the total absence of pigment extended also to the iris, which thus became pink, and often to the beak and feet as well, and "pied" or partially white-plumaged birds, which had in many cases been at first clothed with a perfectly normal plumage, and in which the partial absence of pigment sometimes appeared after several moults, and was not always quite constant. Such pied aberrations frequently occurred among cage-birds. It was not quite correct to call such pied birds albinos, as was often done by collectors—partial albinos or "leucocisms" would be better determination for such individuals, unless the term "pied" could be restricted to such "freaks."

Mounted Specimens.

Apteryx oweni. S. I., New Zealand. Nearly all white.

Apteryx australis. S. I., New Zealand. Head and neck white.

English Pheasants. One silvery-grey, one steel-blue, one whitish variety.

Gennæus albocristatus. ♂. Nepal. Brownish white.

Tetrao urogallus. ♂ ad. Russia. Body and wings white, with black spots.

♀ ad. Akmolinsk. White, with black bars to the feathers; chest uniform white.

Tetrao tetrix. ♂ ad. Orenburg. Remiges and rectrices mostly pure white.

♂ ad. Olanitz. Almost the entire underside white.

♂ ad. Russia. (Leadenhall Market.) Pied; the wings with a great deal of white.

♂ ad. Perm. Silvery grey.

♀ ad. Twer, Russia. Greyish white.

♀ ad. Russia. Pure white.

♀ ad. Russia. Grey, buff, and black in curious mixture.

Lagopus scoticus. ♂. Scotland. Buff and white variety.

Tetrastes bonasia. ♀ ad. Perm. With a great amount of white.

♂ ad. Orenburg. Black and white.

♂. Archangel. Perfectly white.

♂ ad. Russia. Mostly white.

Perdix perdix. ♂. Germany (Wiebke coll.), 8.10.72. White; only the wings, the greater part of the head, and some patches on the back of normal colour.

♂ ♀. Russia. White, with small patches of normal feathers.

2 ♂ ♂. With nearly the whole under surface chestnut (so-called "var. *montana*"); upperside whitish, with large dark brown spots in one, and narrow deep brown bars in the other specimen.

2. Russia. Silvery grey.

1. Nearly all chestnut ("var. *montana*"). Eastbourne, England.

1. Mostly chestnut, with the neck and head pale rusty buff.

1. Entirely white.

Coturnix coturnix. ♂. Italy. Peculiar dark brown variety.

♂. Italy. Below white, above somewhat pale generally, and variegated with white.

Ortyx virginianus. N. America. Primaries white; general coloration pale, with all the marks visible.

Tympanuchus americanus. N. America. ♂. Breast chestnut in the centre, the dark markings very bold and blackish.

♀. N. America. Cream-coloured variety.

Columba palumbus. Cambridge, 1888. 1. Pure white.

1. White, with patches and single feathers of ordinary colour here and there.

Gallinago gallinago. 1. Wales: Aberystwith. Breast and abdomen pure white; remiges white; upperside buff and chestnut.

GALLINAGO GALLINAGO. 1. Russia. Below almost entirely white, above with large patches of white.

1. England. Cream-coloured variety, with pale chestnut markings.

1. England. Pale chestnut and white; head and neck of regular colour.

1. England. Dark brown. An example of "Sabine's Snipe."

GALLINAGO MAJOR. Chosco, Russia. Remarkable variety, with upperside of a rusty-buff colour, with round spots and markings of black.

VANELLUS VANELLUS. Kildare, Ireland. White, with dark chest, and the dark markings on the tail, head, and wings regularly developed.

1. England. Like the preceding one, but with some irregular patches of ordinary coloration.

1. England. Like the specimen from Kildare, but the tail entirely white, and the pectoral band grey instead of black.

OCYDROMUS AUSTRALIS. New Zealand. White, with a deep-brown rump and some brown patches on the head.

1. New Zealand. White, with some brown patches and spots irregularly distributed.

GALLINULA CHLOROPUS. White, with black spots on the wing-coverts and some of the remiges black.

CREX CREX. 1. Ireland. White, with irregular brown patches above and on the sides.

1. Ireland. Chick, pure white with one brown patch on the back.

RALLUS AQUATICUS. 1. Tipperary, Ireland. Pure white all over.

2. Ireland. Pale everywhere, as if the colour had faded away.

LIMOSA MELANURA. ♂ ad. Holland. White, with tail, quills, and part of the upperside cream-coloured.

Numenius arquatus. 1. Co. Down, Ireland. Pure white, with red edges.

2. Wermland, Sweden. Buffy white.

3. Ireland. White, with regularly marked wings and tail.

Somateria mollissima. Norway. Pure white, with five or six brown feathers below and three on the upper surface.

Fuligula fuligula. ♀. England. All the dark portions of the plumage buff.

Spatula clypeata. Ireland. Buffy white, with all the darker markings grey.

Anas querquedula. Russia. Pale buffy white.

Pygoscelis papua. South Georgia. Nearly pure white.

Phalacrocorax punctatus. New Zealand. White, with pale grey markings.

Uria troile. ♀ ad. Speeton, Yorkshire. Dull slaty blackish all over.

1. ♂ ad. Heligoland. Almost entirely white.

1. Scarborough. (Rather small.) Almost entirely white.

1. ♀ ad. Greenland. Upperside pale brown.

Alca torda. Tenby. Black all over, with a few small white spots on the under surface.

Buteo borealis. N. America. White, with only the head and neck and tips of secondaries partly brown and with nearly the whole tail rufous.

Astur palumbarius. Archangel. Buffy white, with dark longitudinal lines; tail and back pure white.

Cerchneis tinnunculus. England. Quills freckled with white.

Accipiter nisus. Near Perth, Scotland. White; wings and mantle pale brownish grey.

Athene noctua. 1. Cremona, Italy. Perfect albino.

Psittacus erithacus. 1. Perfectly white, with red tail.

1. Mostly red; quills black; head and neck only with a few red spots, on the rump a few white feathers, and a few grey feathers on the back.

1. Grey, with a good many red feathers all over. (So-called "King-Parrots.")

Palæornis torquatus. India. Canary-yellow, with the rosy-red collar as in typical examples.

Palæornis cyanocephalus. India. Canary-yellow, with a very pale red head and a little green on the tail.

Trichoglossus novæ-hollandiæ. ♀. Beneath red; head red, with white longitudinal lines; an irregular red collar: upperside yellow, with red patches: tail mixed yellow, green, and red.

Gecinus canus. Moscow. Dull white.

Apus apus. 1. Pale grey.

1. Sussex. Black, with numerous white feathers.

Glaucopis wilsoni. New Zealand. Pure white.

Garrulus glandarius. 2. England. Pure white.

Pica pica. 1. France (Riocour coll.). White; the feathers of the head with narrow black fringes; primaries as usual; tail with some black tips to the rectrices.

1. With part of the tail white and more white in the wing than usual.

Sturnus vulgaris. 1. Quite white.

1. Pale cream-colour.

1. With the body-plumage mostly white and a few white feathers in the wings and tail.

Ampelis garrulus. 1. Russia. Crest and back of the head white; also two white feathers in the tail.

1. Body-plumage and wings white; breast washed with chestnut; forehead deep chestnut, neck rather paler; throat pure white as far as it is black in regularly coloured individuals; tips of tail and yellow edges of wings of the usual yellow colour; the red wax-like tips to the secondaries also present.

Hirundo rustica. England. Upperside pale grey; the tail with the usual pure white round spots; throat pale rufous, pectoral band of the palest grey.

1. Pure white.

Hirundo urbica. 1. Above pale grey, with white rump.

1. Entirely white.

1. With three outer primaries on the right, and seven (with primary-coverts) on the left, wing pure white.

Clivicola riparia. 1. Creamy white.

Lanius excubitor. England. Pure white, with the forehead and patch behind each eye pale brown.

Sylvia hortensis. White.

Phylloscopus trochilus. Worthing. White.

Sylvia cinerea. England. White.

Accentor modularis. 1. Hampshire. Entirely white.

1. Yorkshire. Entirely white.

1. England. White, with mantle and tail partially brown.

Erithacus rubecula. 1. England. Very pale; above pale brownish-grey; throat and chest of the palest crimson-red.

1. England. Most of the feathers of the throat, breast, and neck white.

1. England. Above very pale brown; remiges white; throat not much paler than usual.

1. England. Above pale cinnamon; remiges white; throat quite as deep rufous as usual.

Saxicola œnanthe. 1. Hampshire, September 1892. Entirely white.

1. England. Quite white, with only a few lines on the quills deep brown and with three feathers on the left side pale brownish buff.

1. Suffolk, July 1894 (juv.). Feathers of head and mantle mostly white, with very fine dark brown spots.

PRATINCOLA RUBETRA. ♂. Göttingen. Dirty white and pale cinnamon; tail-feathers and primaries white.

ANORTHURA TROGLODYTES. Mürren, Switzerland. Two perfect albinos.

MOTACILLA ALBA. Head and body nearly all white.

ANTHUS OBSCURUS. English coast. With a good many white feathers scattered here and there. Head almost entirely white.

ANTHUS PRATENSIS. 1. England. Body-plumage yellowish white, with a few brown spots.

1. Body-plumage mostly yellowish white, with a few deep-brown spots, but the whole rump and lower back, upper tail- and wing-coverts, wings, and tail brown as usual.

LULLULA ARBOREA. Pisa, Italy. White, intermixed with brown feathers all over.

ALAUDA ARVENSIS. 1. England. White, with the head and neck, back, and tail marked with deep brown.

2. Brighton. Buffy brown.

1. Germany (Wiebke coll.). With some white feathers all over and white quills.

PARUS CÆRULEUS. Mürren, Switzerland. White with red eyes, but mantle and chest (which are greenish in ordinary Blue Tits) pale sulphur-yellow.

MERULA MERULA. 1 ♂. Germany. Head and neck white; rest of plumage pied black and white.

1. England. Pied all over; primaries and head almost entirely white.

1. Brownish buff; wings almost white.

1 ♂. Aylesbury. Mealy grey, with faint white cross-markings and mottlings; head darker, wings paler.

1. Pure white.

TURDUS MUSICUS. 1. Germany (Wiebke coll.). Pure white.

1. Head white, neck pied.

Turdus iliacus. 1. Buff, with all the markings still apparent.

1. Wales. Buff, with the markings well visible; underside not so pale as in the other specimen.

Turdus viscivorus. 1. Co. Galway. White; the roundish spots on the breast faintly indicated in grey.

1. Bristol. Buffy white; the round spots on the breast well developed.

Turdus pilaris. 1. Pale; head, abdomen, and under tail-coverts pure white.

1. Pied; head and neck chiefly white.

Trypanocorax frugilegus. 1. England. Face, parts of wings, and a few patches on the back white.

Corvus corone. 1. Pale brown; the old worn feathers almost whitish buff, the incoming ones pale brown.

1. Quite white.

Colœus monedula. 1. Sarepta. Pied all over, also some of the quills white.

1. Moscow. Pied above and below, but the quills of ordinary colour; hind-neck almost entirely white.

Passer domesticus. 1. Russia. Pied; head and neck almost white.

1. England. Buffy brown, wings and tail paler.

1. Germany. Buffy brown, also paler on the wings and tail.

1. Perfectly white.

1. Dunedin, New Zealand. White, but tail and wings with some brown.

Passer montanus. Germany (Wiebke coll.). Below quite white; head and chin dark cinnamon; upperside pale cinnamon; quills white, with cinnamon edges; tail white, with pale rufous edges.

Ligurinus chloris. Rottingdean, Sussex. Very pale; shaft of quills white.

Fringilla cœlebs. 1 ♂. Head and neck white, the green portion of the back sulphur-yellow; wings and tail variegated with white; under surface white, with cinnamon-rufous patches.

Fringilla cœlebs. 2 ♂. White, with the portions of the mantle and rump (green in regularly coloured birds) pale sulphur-yellow.

1 ♂. Arezzo, Italy. Almost entirely like the first-mentiond ♂, but with some brown on the back.

1. Buff; quills and tail almost entirely white, the greenish edges on the secondaries replaced by pale yellow.

1 ♂ ad. Near Cheltenham, 8.4.96. Everywhere of a curious cinnamon-rufous colour, which is darkest on the dark portions, lightest on the white parts of the plumage.

Linota cannabina. Three pale varieties. Brighton.

Pyrrhula europæa. 1. White; crown, sides of head and neck, throat, chest, breast, and abdomen bright rosy red.

1. Similar, but with a faint rosy tinge on the back and the red portions very much paler.

1. Pure white. N. Gloucester, Aug. 1895.

Coccothraustes coccothraustes. Brighton. Pied all over, white predominating; underside and head and neck almost universally white.

Loxia curvirostra. ♀. Head and neck, greater part of underside, and a few feathers here and there white.

Pyrrhuloxia sinuata. Texas. Lores and throat faintly red; nearly the whole crest and bases of quills and tail red.

Emberiza citrinella. ♂. Cheltenham. Below rather light yellow; above pied with a great deal of sulphur-yellow.

1. Head and throat mostly light yellow.

1. All over brownish black; some of the quills white.

Emberiza miliaria. 2. England. Principally white, with brown spots and other markings.

Emberiza schœniclus. 1. White, with a few brown feathers on the back and abdomen, and with some brown markings in the tail.

1. Hereford. White, with pale reddish-brown markings.

Skins.

Apteryx oweni. S. I., New Zealand. White, with buffy-brown tips to the feathers and some dark brown mottling.

Apteryx mantelli. Young. Waitara, N. I., New Zealand. Head partially white.

Rhea americana. White. Reared in British Guiana in captivity.

Catarrhactes schlegeli. 1. Macquarie Is. All over slaty black; small yellow patches above the superciliaries. (See Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxvi. p. 643.)

1 ♂. Macquarie Is. With slaty-black patches on the abdomen.

1. Macquarie Is. Upperside buff; flippers creamy white; yellow forehead and suprasuperciliary tufts well developed and quite golden yellow.

1. Macquarie Is. Below with about four dozen black feathers scattered about.

2. With flippers and from the middle of the back white.

1 young. Above creamy white.

1 adult. Above pale brown.

Catarrhactes pachyrhynchus. Upperside with a great number of white feathers, arranged singly; none in patches.

Catarrhactes chrysolophus. Prince Edward Is. White, but the forehead and tufts golden yellow.

Eudyptula minor. Pure albino: even the feet quite pale, but the beak black.

Phalacrocorax carbo. Holland. Above pale brown, with whitish edges to the feathers; below white, with pale rufous-brown tips to most of the feathers.

Fratercula arctica. 1. St. Kilda. Upper surface and neck white, spotted with black.

1. St. Kilda. Entirely white; only wings and tail partially black.

♂ ad. Faroe Islands. Above white, with black spots; crown black, with a few white spots.

♂. Faroe Islands. Entirely white; only wings and tail with a few black feathers.

♂. Faroe Islands. Pale buffy brown.

Uria grylle. Greenland. Above mostly white.

Uria lomvia. ♂ ad. Greenland. Above slaty grey.

♂ ad. Greenland. Above very pale silvery grey.

Alle alle. Above white and black.

Anas boschas. ♀. Elbe, near Hamburg (Wiebke coll.). Tail with much white; neck and under surface creamy buff; bill rather narrow. (Supposed by Messrs. Wiebke to be a hybrid of a *Mergus* and *Anas boschas*, for which belief, however, there is no foundation.)

Mareca penelope. ♀. Scotland. Upperside, neck, and breast pale grey, with white edges to the feathers.

Nettion crecca. Germany. Of a very pale brown; wings mostly white.

Fulica atra. 1. Lenkoran. Pale buffy grey; tips of wings and tail, and edges to the feathers of the back, creamy white.

2 juv. England. Fore-neck and chest white.

Porphyrio melanonotus. 1. New Zealand. Wings and tail with broad white ante-apical cross-bands; bases of upper wing-coverts, under tail-coverts, and a few feathers on the sides of the chest white.

1 ♀. Nelson, New Zealand. Similar to the former, but with the white bands on the wings and tail much narrower, and the feathers of the mantle, as well as some more on the sides of the chest, white.

1. New Zealand. Broad tips to some of the feathers above and below, and tips to quills, buffy white.

Ocydromus earli. 1. Nelson, New Zealand. Under surface white, with a large patch of feathers in the middle of the chest and some feathers on the sides of the abdomen brown. Primaries white.

1. Westport, New Zealand. Under surface white, with three feathers on the chest and some on the abdomen brown; forehead and crown with some white feathers; primaries white.

1. Nelson West, New Zealand. Like the former specimen, but with a large patch in the middle of the chest brown.

Ocydromus australis. ♀. Otago. Perfect albino.

Rallus aquaticus. England. Two outer primaries on left, one on right wing, under and lesser upper wing-coverts, a few feathers on the nape, middle of fore-neck, nearly the whole abdomen, and under tail-coverts, white.

Tetrao tetrix. ♀. Kasan. Underside from the fore-neck to the tail-coverts white, with some blackish markings; wing-coverts with very broad white edgings.

♀ (from an old collection). White, only head and neck with brown markings; rectrices pale brown towards base, and some of the body-feathers with faint brown shades.

♀. Oloneck, Russia. Underside pied.

Lophophorus refulgens. 2. With the otherwise reddish-coppery hind-neck and the shining golden-green mantle of a purple-violet colour—these being the birds called "*Lophophorus impeyanus* var. *mantoui*" by Oustalet.

1. With about half the plumage white—the white feathers being spread all over the bird, the tail excepted.

1. With the hind-neck and mantle velvety black with a metallic green lustre; the white of the lower back replaced by blue-black feathers; the tail black, with golden-green edges; the wing-coverts darker than usual and not so glossy. (This is the "black Monaul" mentioned in Bull. B. O. Club, viii. p. xliii.)

ENGLISH PHEASANT. ♂. Plumage glossy buff, with all the dark markings as usual. (So-called "Bohemian Pheasant.")

♂. Silvery white, some feathers of the chest and breast with tiny narrow longitudinal markings of brownish black.

2 ♀ ♀. Sussex. General colour buff.

♀. Tring. Upperside with numerous white feathers, underside with a few only.

LAGOPUS SCOTICUS. (Leadenhall Market.) Pale chestnut, with lavender-grey and some yellowish-rusty mottlings and bars; feathers of abdomen with white tips. Quills and tail pale brownish buff, above deep or very light brown, the old feathers faded to yellowish buff.

♀. (Leadenhall Market.) Pale yellowish rust-colour and black; breast with some slaty-brown feathers.

♂. Yorkshire. Chest and breast with patches of white feathers; first two primaries and primary-coverts on left wing pure white.

♂. (Leadenhall Market.) Outermost primary on left, four outer primaries and primary-coverts on right wing, white.

4. (Leadenhall Market.) Richly mottled and shaded with light grey all over.

♀. (Leadenhall Market.) Nearly the whole abdomen white.

LAGOPUS MUTUS. (Leadenhall Market.) Perfectly white, *also the shafts of the primaries*; lores pale grey; rectrices pale grey, with white tips.

TETRASTES BONASIA. 4. E. Russia. Everywhere very pale greyish.

1. Nishni Novgorod; 1. Moscow. Generally pale; upperside with much chestnut-rufous.

5. E. Russia. Underside mostly pure white.

1 juv. Nishni Novgorod. Perfectly white.

Tetrao tetrix. ♀. Archangel. Above rusty brown; quills whitish; breast and abdomen pale greyish.

♀. Finland. All the feathers from the neck downwards white, with black centres. (This and the following variety are often, on the Continent, considered to be hybrids between *Tetrao tetrix* and *Lagopus*; but there is no foundation for this belief.)

♀. Novgorod. White from the neck downwards, with black centres to the feathers above, and with black edges to most of those on the abdomen.

Perdix perdix. ♂. (Leadenhall Market.) Above pale grey; all markings well developed; forehead, superciliary stripe, and throat pale rufous; breast whitish grey; abdomen white; horseshoe and cross-bars on flank-feathers very pale rufous.

♂. Brighton. Everywhere very dark, the dark markings on the upperside almost pure black.

♂. Devonshire, 1860. Dark brown variety. Round the bill a black mask; throat earthy brown; below grey-brown, vermiculated with blackish brown; no indication of a "horseshoe."

♂. Devonshire, 1860. Like the preceding one. but more rufous above and with much broader rufous bars on the sides.

♀. (Leadenhall Market.) Very dark variety. Markings above nearly pure black; rufous cross-markings on sides rather broad.

♂. (Leadenhall Market.) Head and neck buff, more rufous on the crown; breast deep chestnut; middle of abdomen buffy white; feathers of upperside mixed white, deep chestnut, and light grey, in beautiful contrast.

3. (Leadenhall Market.) Generally pale; above with much yellowish brown.

♂. (Leadenhall Market.) Above very light; chest and flanks of a most delicate light grey; horseshoe and cross-bars on sides rich chestnut.

PERDIX PERDIX. 3. (Leadenhall Market.) Generally pale; upperside with much rufous chestnut.

2 (from an old collection). Perfect albinos.

2. (Leadenhall Market.) With a great amount of white feathers above and below.

1. (Leadenhall Market.) Breast and abdomen with many white feathers.

3 ♀ ♀ ♀. Schadrinsk, Russia, December 1890 (evidently from one covey). Very light; chest greyish white, with very fine brown vermiculations; abdomen and flanks white, with bright chestnut cross-bars and an irregular indication of a "horseshoe" of the same colour. Above rather bright rufous brown, with broad white longitudinal lines most handsomely marked.

3 ♀ ♀ ♀. Tobolsk and Orenburg. Very pale above; abdomen white, with "horseshoe" barely indicated.

♀. Orenburg. Above and below very pale yellowish grey; cross-bars on flanks and horseshoe-mark very pale.

♀. Nishni Novgorod. Throat very pale yellowish buff; crown and hind-neck as usual; rest of upper surface pale silvery grey with white shaft-lines; rectrices very pale rufous; lateral cross-bars pale chestnut; horseshoe-mark small but very conspicuous, being of a dark chestnut-brown.

♀. (England.) Forehead, superciliary stripe, and throat pale cream-colour; upperside very light grey, with brownish-black cross-markings; wing-coverts with white shaft-lines; lateral cross-bars pale buff; under surface generally pale; horseshoe-mark greyish brown, with some fine black-and-white mottlings.

CACCABIS RUFA. 2. (Leadenhall Market.) Large white area across the breast.

PHASIANUS COLCHICUS. ♂ ad. Germany (Brehm coll.). Tail and wings partly white, and some white feathers among the wing-coverts, on the head, neck, back, and abdomen.

Phasianus colchicus. 2. Russia. Tails completely, wings mostly white; above more white than brown; underside with a good many white feathers.

Chrysolophus amherstiæ. (Reared.) ♀ assuming male's plumage. Feathers of neck-cape of a delicate bluish grey with irregular pale red markings, with narrow blue-black cross-lines and narrowly fringed with blue-black and a broader sub-terminal bar of *red*.

Numida meleagris. (England.) 1. Perfect albino.

1. With back and mantle shaded with pale brown and outermost primaries white.

Goura coronata. New Guinea. 1. Crown buffy; tail and wings buffy lavender-grey; underside pale buffy grey.

1. Back slightly freckled with white; middle rectrices and secondaries edged with white.

Goura victoriæ. New Guinea. Whole upper surface richly freckled with white.

Hemiphaga novæ-zealandiæ. New Zealand. Wings and entire upper surface mixed with white.

2. Buffy grey, with mantle and upper wing-coverts mostly deep chestnut and with a few white feathers.

1. With some pale buff, and a few white feathers.

1. Perfectly white.

1. White, with some of the feathers of the mantle and upper wing-coverts rusty buff towards the tips.

1. Buffy white, with the feathers of the mantle and upper wing-coverts edged with deep chestnut.

1. White, with only the sides of the neck, some of the wing-coverts and secondaries, one rectrix, and some upper tail-coverts of the normal colour.

Calœnas nicobarica. New Guinea. Head and tail uniform white, the rest of the plumage consisting about half of white and half of normally-coloured feathers.

Turtur senegalensis cambayensis. (India.) Head, neck, wing-coverts, wings, rump, and upper tail-coverts partially white.

NESOPELIA GALAPAGOENSIS. 2 ♀. Hood Island. One with the tail partially greyish white; one with the tail partially greyish white and the outer primaries white.

ŒSTRELATA COOKI. ♂. Solomon Island, off Stewart's Island, New Zealand. Perfect albino, even the bill and feet being white.

THINORNIS NOVÆ-ZEALANDIÆ. Chatham Islands (Palmer coll.). Perfect albino.

HÆMATOPUS UNICOLOR. Bradshaw I., New Zealand. Pied above and below.

GLAREOLA PRATINCOLA. Sarepta. All the dark portions of the plumage brownish cream-colour, with brown markings; under wing-coverts and axillaries pale greyish brown.

HIMANTOPUS MELAS. New Zealand. Dirty white, with a few black feathers on the upper surface.

PAVONCELLA PUGNAX. ♀. Tunis. Head, neck, and under surface white; secondaries of right wing partially white.

GALLINAGO GALLINAGO. Four dark-brown varieties, more or less typical "Sabine's Snipes." (England.)

1. Eight outer primaries and primary-coverts on left wing and anterior half of toes white.

3. Showing pale buffy-brown aberrations of different shades.

1. Very light sandy buff above, with a few white and some black feathers in beautiful contrast.

SCOLOPAX RUSTICOLA. ♂. Russia. Third to seventh primary and one of the wing-coverts on the left wing; first to fourth and seventh to eighth quills and the majority of the primary-coverts on the right wing, white.

♀. (Hamburg Market.) Rather pale above and on the breast.

♀. (Leadenhall Market.) Above rufous buff, with light grey markings of great beauty. Quills whitish grey, with reddish-brown markings.

Scolopax rusticola. ♀. (Leadenhall Market.) All the lighter parts of the plumage bright chestnut-rufous, the dark markings black, so that by this contrast a beautiful effect is produced. Head and neck black, each feather with a chestnut-rufous, mostly concealed, cross-bar.

Nestor meridionalis. Collingwood, New Zealand. With a broad yellow band across the breast. (This is the aberration erroneously recognized by Gould, Finsch, and Salvadori as a species, under the name of *N. esslingi*.)

2. Like the former: one with the yellow pectoral band incomplete and irregular.

2. White; sides of head, throat, collar on back, abdomen, and tail-coverts with yellow and red edges; tail partly red.

1. Light yellow; collar, tail-coverts, under wing-coverts, and abdomen red.

1. With the feathers of the head and neck broadly tipped with orange-yellow; rest of upper surface red, with blackish edges; wing with a large creamy-white speculum; tail rosy red, with wide blackish tips; feathers of breast with yellow spots, those of the abdomen and under tail-coverts red.

1. With the feathers of the crown broadly edged with dull yellow; rest of upperside red, feathers of back with orange-yellow edges; tail, wing, and underside as in the former specimen.

Palæornis cyanocephala. India. Head canary-yellow, with a few typically-coloured feathers; black mandibular stripes and collar absent. General coloration rather pale; primaries canary-yellow; under bill brown, not blackish.

Trichoglossus novæ-hollandiæ. Cage-bird, bred with two normally-coloured ones. Breast-feathers yellow, with bluish-green tips and orange-red sub-terminal margins; head washed with blue only; abdomen green, yellow, and red.

Trichoglossus novæ-hollandiæ. 1. Cage-bird. Like the former, but feathers on the breast without orange-red ante-apical bands; primaries and rectrices partly yellow; head even less washed with blue than in the foregoing example.

Coracopsis nigra. Madagascar. All primaries (except one), two of the rectrices, some of the wing- and tail-coverts, and patches on throat and abdomen, white.

Cyanorhamphus auriceps. New Zealand. Bright canary-yellow; frontal band and lores, and patch on lower flanks, scarlet; primaries whitish; primary-coverts partially blue; secondaries partly green.

Melopsittacus undulatus. 4. Pale yellowish varieties.

Ceryle alcyon. N. America. White, the cross-markings on tail and wings faintly indicated in a more snowy white; pectoral band, flanks, and axillaries faintly tinged with rusty buff.

Eulampis jugularis. Martinique, W. I. A patch of white feathers across the chest, and a small one on the bend of the right wing.

Chlorostilbon gibsoni. Bogota, U.S. Colombia. Head, neck, mantle, underside, and outer primaries mostly white.

Chrysolampis mosquitus. 2 ♂ ♂. Brazil. Tail and wings partially white.

Centropus viridis. 2. Luzon. Perfect albinos.

Crotophaga sulcirostris. Mexico. White, with a few black spots on the back and flanks and in the tail.

Falco peregrinus. England. Upper surface creamy white, with some pale brown feathers; quills white, outer ones pale milky-chocolate-brown; under surface delicate buff; moustachial patch and cross-bars on breast, abdomen, flanks, and thighs pale brownish; under wing-coverts very distinctly barred.

Diphyllodes magnifica. New Guinea. A few of the remiges and upper wing-coverts white; feathers of crown mostly buff.

Corvus corax. 3. Faroe Islands. With a great amount of white on the head, throat, abdomen, wings, and tail, and with the claws partially white. Killed in 1867, 1869, and 1872. (From the Wiebke collection.)

1. Russia. Dark grey, head and neck darkest.

1. Russia. Light hoary brown, with a silvery-white gloss.

Trypanocorax frugilegus. 1. Tring. Two of the upper wing-coverts in each wing white.

1. Sussex. Chin and claw of middle toe white.

1. England. Chin and a few of the primaries white.

1. Pale chocolate-brown.

Corvus corone. 1. Pure white.

Colœus monedula. 2. Perfectly white; eyes pink, bill and feet partially white.

Pica pica. 2. Perfect albinos. With all the black parts of the plumage chocolate-brown.

Motacilla lugubris. England. Head, neck, and outermost primaries white.

Motacilla alba. Renthendorf (Brehm coll.). Entirely white; only the quills, except the innermost ones, and part of tail black; upperside with a faint yellow tinge.

Hirundo rustica. 4. Aylesbury, 1893 to 1895, as recorded in Nov. Zool. vols. i., ii. Perfect albinos with pink iris, whitish bill and feet. Although these birds are true albinos, there is a very faint brownish-grey tinge on the back, and the white round markings on the rectrices are perfectly visible, being of a more snowy white.

1. Southampton. White, with a very faint greyish tinge above; throat and under tail-coverts rusty-red;

pectoral band indicated in grey; rest of under surface tinged with buff.

Hirundo rustica. 2. Saxony (Brehm coll.). Entirely white.

1. Braunsdorf (Brehm coll.). White; throat brownish-red; flanks, under tail-coverts, and bases of rectrices tinged with rufous.

2. Roda (Brehm coll.). ♂ & ♀ from same nest. White (not albinos), with part of tail and all the primaries black.

Saxicola œnanthe. ♀. Rottingdean, Sussex. Upper surface intermixed with delicate greyish white.

♂. Lakenheath, Suffolk. Head, mantle, and breast pied.

♂. Norfolk. Head, mantle, and back with numerous white feathers.

♀. Rottingdean, Sussex. Above very pale lavender-grey; below white.

Pratincola rubetra. ♀. Rottingdean, Sussex. Extremely pale everywhere.

Sturnus vulgaris. 1. Ascot, Berkshire. ♀. White with a silvery gloss; the spangled tips of a more snowy, but not silvery glossy white.

1. Juv. Sussex. Perfectly white, including bill.

1. Canterbury. White, the bill also pale.

1 (from an old collection). White, bill brown.

1. Sussex. Middle rectrices and some of the upper tail-coverts white.

1. Sussex. White, with a few normal feathers on the back, wings, tail, and underside.

1. Canterbury. Pale; wings and tail buffy brown.

1. Canterbury. Dirty whitish brown, with a few normal feathers.

Lamprotornis æneus. Senegambia. Glossy brown all over.

Prosthemadera novæ-zealandiæ. ♂. Stewart's Island. Perfect albino.

Prosthemadera novæ-zealandiæ. ♀. Wellington. Mantle, wings, tail, and lower abdomen mostly buffy white; tufts on fore-neck pure white, as usual; rest of plumage pale brown.

Merula merula. 1 ♂. England. Pied.
1 ♂. Sussex. Pied.
1 ♂. Tring. With a few white feathers on the head.
1 ♂. England. Head and neck almost quite white.
1 ♀. Tring. Head and neck white; wing-coverts, back, and flanks with a few white feathers.
♂. Reigate. Mostly white.
♀. England. Mostly white.
1 (? ♀). South of Rome. All over greyish white.

Turdus migratorius. ♂. North America. Buffy white; chest, breast, and abdomen rufous.

Turdus viscivorus. England. Perfect albino.

Turdus pilaris. Head and neck white; wings and upper surface pied.

Turdus musicus. 3. England. Buff varieties.
1. Tring. With some white feathers on the head.

Anthus novæ-zealandiæ. 1. Canterbury, New Zealand. Back, wings, tail, and flanks mostly white.
1. New Zealand. White and pale rusty brown.

Miro australis. Canterbury, New Zealand. Pied all over.

Petroica toitoi. 2. New Zealand. Head and neck wholly, rest of plumage chiefly, white.

Zosterops cærulescens. New Zealand. Normal, except for a canary-yellow nape-band.

Anorthura troglodytes. ♂. Near Cambridge. Entirely white.

Locustella nævia. Moscow. White, with a yellow tinge on head, neck, and upper surface.

SETOPHAGA RUTICILLA. Hastings, New York. White, sides of breast, edges to quills, and base of tail yellow; mantle, back, and rump shaded with black.

EMPIDIAS FUSCUS. N. America. Whitish buff; below with a more conspicuous lemon-yellow shade; crown and nape pale grey-brown.

PARUS CÆRULEUS. ♀. Altenburg (Brehm coll.). Very pale everywhere.

CHLORODREPANIS WILSONI. Maui, Sandwich Islands. All over bright canary-yellow; wings and tail white with yellow edges.

ERITHACUS RUBECULA. 1. Cage-bird. Wesel. Quills partially white.

1. Canterbury district. Body-plumage mostly white.

1 ♀. Sussex. Body-plumage and tail mostly white.

ALAUDA ARVENSIS. England. Three pale greyish-brown aberrations of different shades.

♀. Naples. Pale grey and brown above; wings and tail partially white.

♂. Rome. Pale buff; wings and tail palest, almost white.

♂. Brighton. Sandy reddish brown, tips of wings and tail whitish.

2 ♂♂, 1 ♀. England. Upperside most delicately black and greyish white, not at all suggesting a variation of plumage.

♂. Near Tring. Some of the quills, wing-coverts, and rectrices white.

♀. Brighton. Tail partially white.

♂. Rottingdean. Wings and tail partially white.

1. Sussex. Upperside, wings, and tails mostly white.

GALERIDA CRISTATA. Pomerania. Sandy buff, recalling some of the desert-forms of Crested Larks, but yet quite different from them.

Passer domesticus. 20 buff, pied, or pure white varieties.

2 ♂♂. Bevendean, Sussex. Of different years, but probably brothers, being generally pale; crown light brownish grey; back and wing-coverts rufous and buff; wings and tail delicate whitish-grey with rufous edges; both alike.

Passer montanus. Pomerania. Perfect albino: eyes pink.

1 ♂. Renthendorf (Brehm coll.). Perfect albino.

1 ♀. Merv. White, with rufous-brown edges to the secondaries, some of the rectrices, and feathers of the head.

1 ♀. Renthendorf. Head as usual, rest of plumage white; back, flanks, and edges to remiges rusty-red colour.

Pyrrhula europæa. ♂. (Cage-bird.) Wings, tail, and upper surface partially white.

♂. Black cage-variety, with partially white wings and tail.

Acanthis cannabina. 8 pied aberrations.

2 generally pale ones.

1 perfect albino.

Acanthis rufescens. ♂ ad. (Lived for several years in a cage at Tring; was received in similar plumage.) White; forehead yellow; back and abdomen with a few brown feathers; wings and tail partially normal.

Carduelis carduelis. 1 juv. Co. Wicklow. White, head and back spotted with brown; chest shaded with brown and yellow; wings and tail normal.

Ligurinus chloris. ♂. Sussex. Of a very pale brown; back shaded with yellow; rump and breast yellow.

♀. Sussex. Pied with pale brown and white.

1. England. Crown white, somewhat more extended to the left than to the right.

Fringilla cœlebs. White, with some brown patches; back, rump, and edges to quills yellow.

♂ ad. With a white mask.

♂ ad. With numerous white feathers on the head and wings and a few pale yellow ones on the mantle.

♂ ad. With numerous white feathers throughout, and some yellow ones on the back and rump; head and neck almost uniform white.

♂. Near Tring. Very pale brown; tail and wings partially white; rump brownish yellow.

♀. Renthendorf (Brehm coll.). Like the former, but a little darker.

Miliaria miliaria. 2. England. Buffy white, with some brown feathers all over.

1. England. Yellowish white; primaries normal; tail quite white; only the second feather from the left side brown; under tail-coverts pale brown; abdomen washed with buff and with a few dark brown narrow splashes.

1 pull. Sussex. Wings partially white.

1 pull. Sussex. White; tips of wings and wing-coverts and spots on crown of a very pale brown; quills with very pale-yellow edges.

1. Brighton. Upper surface pied.

1. Rottingdean, Sussex. Head pied.

1. Rottingdean, Sussex. Altogether of a very dark brown above, and with black patches on the underside. This specimen has the appearance of one of those dark aberrations which are produced in ill-lighted cages by continual hemp-seed-feeding, so frequent in Bullfinches and Hawks, but it has not a sign otherwise of being a cage-bird and was caught in a wild state.

Emberiza citrinella. 1. Lincolnshire. Very pale rufous-brown and yellow; wings and tail almost white.

♂. Sarepta, S. Russia. Above pale; below golden yellow, spotted with patches of normal feathers here and there; wings and tail normal.

EMBERIZA HORTULANA. ♂. Some of the secondaries white; tail white with blackish-brown tips.

SPERMOPHILA MINUTA. White, with wings and tail partly normal.

GEOSPIZA FULIGINOSA. ♀. Albemarle I., Galapagos Is. White with brown patches; wings entirely white.

CHONDESTES GRAMMICA. N. America. Under surface pure white, only flanks and under tail-coverts with some brown patches; upperside white, with numerous brown feathers; outermost rectrix on the left side showing the normal deep brown base to the feather.

PAROARIA LARVATA. Brazil. Head and neck as red as usual; rest of plumage white, mixed with pale and dark brown feathers.

MELOSPIZA FASCIATA. 1 ♀. Massachusetts. Fifth primary on each side with a white patch near the tip.

♀. Charlestown, New Hampshire. All the dark markings pale rusty rufous; tail very pale rufous-brown; wings almost white.

RHAMPHOCŒLUS BRASILIUS. ♀. Brazil. Owing to the absence of dark brown pigment, the bird is quite pale, while the red pigment remains. Upper surface white, with brown shades and patches; forehead rosy red; rump and upper tail-coverts dark red; underside brownish red; throat paler.

CALLISTE VITRIOLINA. U.S. Colombia. Above buffy yellow; wings white, with yellow edges; tail pale brownish-greenish; underside of the palest yellow; flanks and under tail-coverts rusty brown.

UROLONCHA STRIATA. 10 varieties, bred in Japan. Pure white, fawn-colour and white, deep brown and white. [These are the well-known "Bengalees." They are evidently *Ur. striata*, and the belief of Messrs. Abrahams and Butler ('Foreign Finches,' p. 222) that they are hybrids between "*Aidemosyne malabarica*" and "*Uroloncha striata*" seems to be erroneous, at least with regard to those Bengalees known to us.]

PADDA ORYZIVORA. 8 pure white, grey and white, black, grey, and white varieties of Japanese breeding.

Exhibited by ROBERT H. READ.

BLACKBIRD (*Merula merula*), juv. This was hatched in a nest in the garden of Mr. R. J. G. Read at Cadbyrie House, Castlebar, Ealing, in 1898. Two other young birds in the same nest were normally coloured. The eggs were all three of the normal type. The specimen is of a pale brown colour, but had pink eyes. It was put in a cage and fed by its parents, but died through excessive feeding.

ROBIN (*Erythacus rubecula*). In this specimen all the rufous tinge has disappeared from the upper parts, and on the underparts the red breast has been replaced by pale grey. It was not an albino. It was seen for some days about the farm-buildings of Mr. Herbert Davis, of Doulting, Somerset, and was found dead one morning during the winter of 1889.

HOUSE-SPARROW (*Passer domesticus*). Parti-coloured, white and brown. Doulting, Somerset, Sept. 1894.

CHAFFINCH (*Fringilla cœlebs*). Parti-coloured, but chiefly white. The yellow on the back and parts of the buff on the breast remained unchanged, illustrating Mr. Hartert's general rule in this respect. The Robin referred to above, however, is an illustration of the contrary fact.

Exhibited by W. Fitzherbert-Brockholes.

Corn-Crake (*Crex crex*). Plumage perfectly white, except for three or four feathers near the tail. It was caught by a labourer when mowing in a meadow, about the end of July, in 1856 or 1857, at Claughton, near Garstang, Lancashire, and was brought alive to the late T. F. Brockholes, who had it killed and set up; it has been at Claughton Hall ever since. Another white bird was seen at the same time, but the men were unsuccessful in their efforts to catch it. The bird was evidently a young one of the year and unable to fly.

Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*). "Hairy" variety. Caught by a little boy against some rabbit wire-netting at Claughton in October 1884, and brought alive to the exhibitor, who killed it and had it set up. It was unable to fly owing to the absence of barbules to the feathers, and the ends of the quill-feathers were worn away through striking the ground in its efforts to fly. The plumage was curiously brindled and the frontal shield was absent.

Exhibited by J. G. Millais.

Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*). Albinistic female assuming the plumage of the male. (The only example of such partial albinism known to the exhibitor.)

Grouse (*Lagopus scoticus*). Eight varieties.

Capercailzie (*Tetrao urogallus*). Albino, ♂ ad. One of the only two white varieties ever killed in Scotland.

Partridge (*Perdix perdix*). Eight varieties.

Oyster-catcher (*Hæmatopus ostralegus*). One specimen.

Guillemot (*Uria troile*). One specimen.

Puffin (*Fratercula arctica*). Three specimens.

ROOK (*Trypanocorax frugilegus*). Three specimens. One of these had four legs, and had progressed so far to maturity that it was able to fly.

SWIFT (*Cypselus apus*). White variety ; very uncommon.

MISTLE-THRUSH (*Turdus viscivorus*). Two specimens.

FIELDFARE (*Turdus pilaris*). One specimen.

BLACKBIRD (*Merula merula*). Two specimens.

WOOD-PIGEON (*Columba palumbus*). One specimen.

ROCK-DOVE (*Columba livia*). One specimen.

SKY-LARK (*Alauda arvensis*). Three specimens.

YELLOW BUNTING (*Emberiza citrinella*). One specimen.

REED-BUNTING (*Emberiza schœniclus*). One specimen.

COMMON BUNTING (*Miliaria miliaria*). Two specimens.

HOUSE-SPARROW (*Passer domesticus*). Three specimens.

BULLFINCH (*Pyrrhula europæa*). A melanistic female, shot in a wild state.

HEDGE-ACCENTOR (*Tharrhaleus modularis*). One specimen.

Exhibited by C. A. WRIGHT.

Two specimens from his collection of Maltese birds, viz. :— A cream-coloured variety of the COMMON NIGHTJAR (*Caprimulgus europæus*, ♀) and a TURTLE-DOVE (*Turtur isabellinus*, Bp.). This latter bird had not been taken before in the Maltese Islands, and should now be added to the list of occasional visitors. It was obtained in the market on the 2nd May, 1885, and had hitherto been considered to be a pale variety of the Common Turtle-Dove (*Turtur turtur*). *Cf.* P. Z. S. 1886, p. 81.

Exhibited by PHILIP CROWLEY.

A white SAND-MARTIN (*Clivicola riparia*).

A white PARTRIDGE (*Perdix perdix*).

An olive- and cream-coloured MOORHEN (*Gallinula chloropus*).

Exhibited by O. V. APLIN.

A male PARTRIDGE (*Perdix perdix*), shot at Bloxham, Oxon, in September 1899. The bright rufous colour of the vent extended over the abdomen and breast, recalling the coloration of *P. daurica*.

Exhibited by JOHNSON WILKINSON.

BLACK GROUSE (*Lyrurus tetrix*). An adult male in female plumage, and an adult female in male plumage. From Perm.

A female MONGOLIAN PHEASANT (*Phasianus mongolicus*) in the plumage of the male. From Fort Perovskie, Syr-Darya.

A white PARTRIDGE (*Perdix perdix*). From England.

Mr. SCLATER exhibited, on behalf of Dr. JULIUS VON MADARÁSZ, of the Hungarian National Museum, the following mounted specimens of birds from the collection under his charge:—

(1) DENDROCOPUS MAJOR. ♀ albino. Shot in the county of Nograd, Hungary, in January 1864.

(2) DENDROCOPUS MAJOR. ♂. Shot in Hungary, 1822, showing very interesting variations in colour.

(3) DENDROCOPUS MAJOR × D. MEDIUS. Shot by Dr. J. v. Madarász in May 1892 in Ogradina, South Hungary. There were three specimens, all alike. The head resembles that of *D. major*, but the rest of plumage, especially the underparts, are those of *D. medius*.

Dr. J. v. Madarász also sent for exhibition four specimens of *Ptilocorys senegalensis,* which replaces the Common Crested Lark (*P. cristatus*) on the Hungarian littoral and breeds in the rocks of the Karst Mountains; and two examples of *P. nigricans,* Brehm, of Egypt (Damietta, 1887), which he considered a distinct species, not to be confounded with *P. cristatus.*

Mr. Hartert, who examined these Crested Larks, said that these supposed *Galerita nigricans* of Brehm were the same as his *Galerita cristata deltæ.* As the type of *G. nigricans* was in the Tring Museum, Mr. Hartert would shortly give his conclusions with respect to the identity of these two forms. The type of *G. c. deltæ* was also from Damietta, collected by Schrader.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXVI.

THE sixty-fifth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 22nd of November, 1899.

Chairman : P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—BOYD ALEXANDER, E. BIDWELL, A. F. CROSSMAN, F. CURTIS, F. D. DREWITT, M.D., E. F. FENWICK, F. H. CARRUTHERS GOULD, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, E. HARTERT, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, EUGENE W. OATES, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., ROBERT H. READ, A. D. SAPSWORTH, HOWARD SAUNDERS, R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*), H. SCHERREN, W. L. SCLATER, E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, C. WHYMPER, L. A. WILLIAMS, W. E. DE WINTON (*Sec. & Treasurer*), H. F. WITHERBY, J. YOUNG.

Visitors : C. E. FAGAN, T. S. TAIT, Hon. E. H. WITTENOOM.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE handed round to the Meeting facsimiles of two letters in Gilbert White's handwriting, one addressed to Thomas Pennant and the other to the Hon. Daines Barrington.

The CHAIRMAN then gave his Annual Address to the Club :—

BROTHER MEMBERS OF THE B. O. C.,—I thank you for the honour you have done me by electing me Chairman for the

[*November 30th*, 1899.]

Eighth Session of this Club, and wish to express my regret at not having been able to attend the first Meeting. I will, however, take the opportunity now afforded me by being occupant of the Chair for the first time this session to offer you a few remarks on ornithological progress during the past twelve months. I will speak first of some of the chief publications that have been issued since our last Meeting, of those that are being planned or are in course of process of publication, and lastly of some of the expeditions to foreign countries that have attained or are likely to attain good ornithological results.

First, as regards publications, I consider that one of the most important of those that have appeared during the past year is Dr. Bowdler Sharpe's 'Hand-list of Birds,' the plan of which was announced to you some time since (see Bull. vol. viii. p. xxiv), and the first volume of which has lately been issued. When finished, there can be no doubt that the new 'Hand-list' will be of the greatest convenience to working ornithologists. Besides giving an index to the twenty-seven volumes of the great 'Catalogue of Birds,' it will contain references to all the additional species described during the progress of that work, and so form a complete guide-book to all species of birds described up to the time of its issue. It will, in fact, do for Birds what Dr. Trouessart, in his lately-issued 'Catalogus Mammalium,' has attempted to do for the Mammals. All that we could have wished, in fact, is that we should not have to wait two more years for its completion; but this delay is, of course, unavoidable.

Another recent event of much ornithological importance is the issue of the final number of the second edition of Mr. Saunders's 'Manual of British Birds.' There can be no greater proof of the increased attention now paid to the study of birds in this country than the great popularity of this excellent 'Manual,' and, we may likewise add, of several other recent works on British ornithology.

A third work, issued this year, which I must not fail to mention, is Mr. Evans's volume upon "Birds" in the series of the 'Cambridge Natural History.' As has been already observed, Mr. Evans's work contains a "concentrated essence of information" on birds which will be most useful as a book of reference to all students of our favourite science.

I should also like to congratulate Messrs. Wilson and Evans on the completion of their 'Aves Hawaiienses,' which we have long been looking forward to. The strange avifauna of this isolated group of islands was specially worthy of a monograph.

Of equal importance in geographical ornithology are the two admirable quarto volumes, published by Dr. A. B. Meyer and Mr. L. A. Wiglesworth, on the 'Birds of Celebes,' which have reached us since the commencement of our last Session. As doubtful territory between the Oriental and Australian Regions, Celebes is a locality of special importance in the study of zoo-geography, and well worthy of the elaborate care and attention that these authors have devoted to it.

I may also venture to allude to the recent completion of Mr. Oates's handy little volumes on the 'Game-Birds of India,' by the issue of the second part, and to the good progress made by our Editor with Seebohm's 'Monograph of the Thrushes,' the seventh part of which has lately appeared.

Now, turning to the forthcoming works actually in progress, I may mention that our brother member, Dr. A. C. Stark, has nearly passed through the press the first of four volumes on the 'Birds of South Africa,' which will form a part of Mr. W. L. Sclater's series on the fauna of that portion of the Ethiopian Region. Both Mr. Layard's original volume and Dr. Sharpe's new edition of it are, I believe, long since out of print, and it is highly desirable that a new and revised account of the birds of that country, which is now, and is likely to remain, of such interest to us, should be prepared. I believe I may truly say that Dr. Stark is well qualified, from long personal experience with the avifauna in question, to prepare such a work.

Mr. Rothschild's illustrated monograph on the Cassowaries is now also in a forward state, and will shortly be published in the Zoological Society's 'Transactions.' It will be of great importance as comprising all the available information respecting this little-known and most interesting group of birds, to which the author has devoted particular care and attention. I am also pleased to be able to say that the Trustees of the British Museum have authorized Mr. E. W. Oates to proceed with the printing of his Catalogue of their unrivalled collection of Birds'-eggs, and that the first volume of it will shortly be ready.

As regards the expeditions to foreign countries which have led, or are likely to lead, to good ornithological results, I wish to call special attention to Mr. Boyd Alexander's journey up the Zambesi, which has led to most interesting additions to our knowledge of the avifauna of the district traversed by him. The first portion of Mr. Alexander's account of his collection has already appeared in 'The Ibis,' and the second and final portions will be given in the succeeding numbers of our Journal. Of hardly less importance are the recent contributions of Messrs. Rickett, Styan, and La Touche to the avifauna of the Chinese province of Fohkien, which are now in process of publication in the same periodical. They show how much there is still to be done in the little-known hill-regions of China, when the latter can be safely penetrated by European naturalists.

The expedition made by Mr. W. R. Ogilvie Grant and Dr. H. O. Forbes to Sokotra and the previously unvisited island of Ab-del-Kuri has resulted in a large increase in our knowledge of the zoology and botany of these localities, where seven new species of birds were discovered. A full account of the collections made, with many coloured plates of the new species, will be shortly issued by the Committee of the Liverpool Museum.

Another imperfectly-known district, which has lately been very successfully traversed, is the interior of the British Protectorate of Aden, into which Messrs. A. Blayney Percival and W. Dodson have lately made an expedition. This has unfortunately cost the life of Mr. Dodson (a most promising collector, and the younger brother of Mr. E. Dodson, the naturalist who accompanied Dr. Donaldson

Smith on his expedition to Lake Rudolph), who, I regret to say, died at Aden on the 20th of October last, after the return of the expedition. The collection of birds, which is in the hands of Mr. Ogilvie Grant, has only just arrived and has not yet been fully examined. There are few new species represented in it, but there are certainly many of considerable interest. Mr. J. S. Budgett has lately returned from a successful visit to our colony on the River Gambia. He also has made a collection of birds, which have not yet been examined, but will certainly prove to be of considerable value. Nor must be omitted mention of the second expedition to Lake Tanganyika, now being conducted by Mr. J. E. S. Moore. Mr. Moore will devote himself principally, of course, to the aquatic products of the Lake, but two of his companions, Mr. Berridge and Mr. Mathews, are ardent ornithologists, and will pay special attention to our branch of natural history. Except from some of the German explorers, we have, as yet, but little information concerning the bird-life of the Tanganyika district, especially of the country northward of it, which Mr. Moore's expedition is planned to pass through on its return journey. Mr. F. J. Jackson, C.B., may have little time for ornithology, owing to his official duties in Uganda; but that he is still able to devote a little leisure to his favourite study is shown by the excellent series of papers now appearing in 'The Ibis.'

This Meeting will presently have before it the descriptions of several new species of birds by Mr. H. Weld Blundell and Lord Lovat, discovered during their late adventurous journey through Southern Abyssinia to Khartum. The travellers landed at Berbera in December 1898, traversed Shoa, Southern Abyssinia, and the North Galla country, struck the Blue Nile, which they followed as far as Roseires, whence they proceeded by steamer to Khartum, and thence by train to Cairo, which was reached in May 1899. Their bird-collection contains 520 specimens representing 299 species, of which 11 are new; examples of many of the species described by Rüppell, and known only by the types in the Frankfurt Museum, are also among the number. A special point of interest in this collection is the number of birds previously only known from Eastern and Equatorial Africa which have now been found in Southern Abyssinia. This extremely interesting collection is being worked out by Mr. Ogilvie Grant, and a paper on it will appear in the January 'Ibis.'

Turning now to Asia, I have to record that Major Wingate, starting from Shanghai, followed the Yang-tze-kiang as far as Lake Tung-ting, whence he took a south-westerly course along the Yuen-kiang through Hoo-nan, Kwei-chow, and Yun-nan to Bhâmo. A Chinese taxidermist accompanied him through this remarkable journey, and a fine collection of birds has been forwarded to the British Museum, where it is at present under examination. I may add that a melancholy interest attaches to the beautiful series of birds from the island of Hainan which now lies on the table—the last, and one may almost say the dying, contribution to ornithological knowledge made by that sterling English naturalist, the late John Whitehead, whose loss is sincerely mourned by myself and by all his brother ornithologists throughout the world.

On the whole, therefore, I think, gentlemen, that there is no reason that we should be at all dissatisfied with the present progress of ornithological work in the Eastern Hemisphere. As regards the New World, we may now expect renewed exertions on the part of our fellow-workers on the other side of the Atlantic. They have, I think I may say, fairly exploited the northern portion of their continent, and have for some time been extending their energies over Mexico and Central America. In the Antilles they have long been at work, and some fine series of birds from the Neotropical Region have been accumulated by American naturalists. Let us wish them every sort of success in their efforts, as in these days it is more than ever important that the great Anglo-Saxon community should unite together in every branch of work. But at the same time let us here neglect no opportunity of extending our own knowledge of

Birds in the New as well as in the Old World. Even as I write I hear of some important collections lately arrived in this country, which show a renewed interest in Neotropical ornithology.

Dr. SHARPE exhibited, on behalf of Mr. R. J. Ussher, a specimen of the Larger Snow-Goose (*Chen nivalis*), which had been shot near Belmullet in Co. Mayo. It belonged to the collection of the well-known Irish naturalist, Mr. H. Blake-Knox.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited a specimen of a Sociable Plover (*Chætusia gregaria*), which had been sent to him for inspection by Mr. E. Williams, of Dublin. The bird in question had been shot near Navan in Co. Meath on the 1st of August, 1899, and constituted the second occurrence of the species within the area of the British Islands.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited a new species of Humming-bird, which he described as follows:—

+ AGYRTRIA TENEBROSA, sp. n.

Upper surface green; hind-neck and upper back with a steel-blue gloss; crown of head violet-blue, greenish on the forehead; longer upper tail-coverts greenish bronze. Rectrices deep steel-blue, almost black, the middle pair with a faint bronzy gloss. Under surface of body glittering green, the feathers of the chin and throat white before the metallic-green tips, those of the abdomen blackish before the green tips. Under tail-coverts dark bronzy-green. Feathers on the tibia and metatarsus as well as tufts of fluffy feathers on the sides of the belly dusky with whitish tips. Bill black, the lower mandible flesh-colour (in skin), with the apical third black. Wing 57–58, tail 38, central rectrices 31, bill 21 mm.

Two specimens found in Bogotá collections: the type in Mr. Rothschild's Museum; another in Mr. Dunstall's collection.

Obs. In general coloration this species is very much like *Saucerottea cyanifrons* (Bourc.), but its elongated and slightly-curved bill, somewhat longer and narrower rectrices, and other characters seem to place it in the genus *Agyrtria* as at present accepted.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition specimens of a new form of Lory, which he described as follows:—

"EOS VARIEGATA OBIENSIS, subsp. nov.

"Adult examples of this species from Obi Major differ from adult specimens from Batjan, Halmahéra, and Ternate in the absence of the purple occiput and purple collar round the neck, and in having all the greater wing-coverts and scapulars black. Other, probably younger, individuals from Obi Major exhibit a wide collar and a purple patch on the occiput, the latter, however, not being connected with the collar in any of my specimens. These individuals can only be distinguished from typical *E. variegata* by the greater extent of the black colour on the wings. I have eight examples from Obi, collected by Doherty, Lucas, and Guillemard, and a good series from Ternate and Batjan. With regard to the specific name of this Lory, I think there can be no doubt that *Psittacus variegatus*, Gm., ex Latham ("Variegated Lory"), must be accepted. The tail and scapulars are, as in *Eos bornea* (=*E. rubra*, auct.), sometimes distinctly greenish, at least in specimens kept in captivity; therefore Latham's description must be regarded as sufficiently exact to refer to this bird."

Mr. ROTHSCHILD further sent for exhibition an interesting series of *Scolopax saturata* from New Guinea and a specimen of *Neoscolopax rochusseni* from Obi Major. Of the latter species only two specimens were hitherto on record, one in the British Museum and the type specimen in Leiden.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited some very interesting specimens of Pheasants. One was a specimen of a Kalij

Pheasant said to have been shot in Hertfordshire, and belonging to Mr. Cecil Braithwaite. The second was a very dark-coloured hen bird, supposed to be a hybrid between a Black Grouse (*Tetrao tetrix*) and a female *Phasianus colchicus*. Mr. Tegetmeier regarded it as a dark variety of an ordinary hen Pheasant.

Mr. Boyd Alexander described a new species of *Chlorodyta* from the Zambesi River as follows:—

Chlorodyta neglecta, sp. n.

Similis *C. flavidæ* ex terrâ Damarensi, sed uropygio et interscapulio concoloribus, genis guttureque toto et subalaribus albis, minimè flavis, subcaudalibus albis, nec flavis, et tibiis grisescenti-albis, distinguenda.

Hab. S.E. Africa to Mozambique.

Mr. J. I. S. Whitaker sent the description of a new species of Chat in the British Museum collection. The bird had been wrongly identified as *S. mœsta*, Licht. He therefore proposed to call it

"Saxicola cummingi, sp. n.

"*Adult.* Closely allied to *S. xanthoprymna*, H. & E., but distinguished by having the basal part of the tail-feathers rusty red like the upper tail-coverts, instead of white. From *S. mœsta* to be at once distinguished by having the top of the head and nape brownish grey like the back, the rump and upper tail-coverts rusty and the rufous on the outer tail-feathers extending to within 0·7 inch of the extremity. Total length 6·5 inches, culmen 0·78, wing 3·7, tail 2·45, tarsus 0·95.

"*Hab.* Fao, Persian Gulf (*W. D. Cumming*)."

Mr. W. R. Ogilvie Grant exhibited some of the more interesting birds obtained by Major Wingate during his recent expedition from the Yang-tze-kiang through Southern China to Bhâmo. One of the most striking of these was a fine adult pair of *Merganser squamatus* (Gould), previously known only from an immature male described in 1864.

Mr. Grant also exhibited and made remarks on some of the more remarkable new birds obtained by the late Mr. John Whitehead on the Five-finger Mountains in the interior of Hainan. Most of these, such as the splendid Silver Pheasant (*Gennæus whiteheadi*) and the new Night-Heron (*Nycticorax magnifica*), had already been described in the October number of 'The Ibis' for this year (pp. 584–587), but in that paper the description of a fine new species of *Urocissa* had been omitted. Mr. Grant now proposed to describe it as

Urocissa whiteheadi, sp. n.

Adult male and female. Head, back, fore-neck, and chest dark earthy brown, darkest on the ear-coverts, and shading into grey on the sides and flanks, and into yellowish buff on the middle of the breast, belly, and under tail-coverts; feathers of the crown rounded at the extremity and edged with whitish brown; rump greyish brown; upper tail-coverts black tipped with white; wings black, except the lesser and median wing-coverts, which are white, save at the base; tips of the primary-quills, margins of terminal half of outer webs of secondaries, and the tips of the greater wing-coverts pure white; middle tail-feathers grey, widely tipped with white, and with a sub-terminal black band, the outer feathers similarly marked, but with the white tips increasing in size and shaded with yellow; axillaries and under wing-coverts clear yellowish white. Iris straw-colour; bill red, shading into brownish yellow at the base; feet dark brown. Total length about 18·0 inches, culmen 1·9, wing 8·2, tail 9·4, tarsus 1·95.

Hab. Five-finger Mountains, interior of Hainan.

Mr. Grant further described a new species of Thick-knee from Southern Arabia, obtained during the recent expedition undertaken by Mr. A. Blayney Percival and the late Mr. W. Dodson:—

Œdicnemus dodsoni, sp. n.

Adult male. Most nearly allied to *Œ. affinis* (Rüpp.), but with the ground-colour of the interscapular region largely mixed with greyish buff, while the deep black markings so conspicuous in the latter species are reduced to shaft-stripes. The greater and median wing-coverts are altogether greyer, the chest and breast more heavily streaked with brownish black, and the middle pair of tail-feathers as well as the outer webs of the two following pairs are mostly grey with indistinct blackish vermiculations and cross-bars. Iris lemon-yellow; bill lemon-yellow, black at the tip; legs lemon-yellow. Total length about 14·5 inches, culmen from feathers on forehead to tip 1·4, wing 8·6, tail 4·9, tarsus 3·4.

Hab. Lahej, S. Arabia.

Mr. Grant further exhibited the types of the 11 new species discovered by Mr. H. Weld Blundell and Lord Lovat during their recent expedition through Southern Abyssinia.

Mr. Blundell and Lord Lovat described the new species as follows:—

1. Oriolus meneliki, sp. n.

Adult. Most nearly allied to *O. monachus*, Gm., from which it may be at once distinguished by having the bill jet-black; the secondary wing-coverts and outer row of median coverts margined with yellow; and the third, fourth, and fifth pairs of tail-feathers with a strongly marked black sub-terminal band. "Iris brown; bill black; legs slate." Total length about 10·0 inches, culmen 1·1, wing 5·6, tail 4·0, tarsus 0·95.

Hab. Burka, Abyssinia: 6th January, 1899.

2. Lusciniola abyssinica, sp. n.

Adult male. Allied to *L. thoracica* (Blyth) and *L. mandellii* (Brooks), but having the upper parts of a darker and richer brown tinged with red on the lower back and rump; the *buff-coloured* chest is separated from the white of the throat by a fairly well-marked band of blackish spots; the sides of the body and flanks are dull rusty brown, and the under tail-coverts uniform dull rust-colour. First primary two-thirds the length of the second, which is about equal to the tenth; fourth, fifth, and sixth sub-equal and longest. Iris brown; upper mandible and extremity of lower blackish horn, rest of under mandible whitish; legs light horn-colour. Total length about 6·0 inches, culmen 0·65, wing 2·1, tail 2·4, tarsus 0·8.

Hab. Chercher, Abyssinia: 12th January, 1899.

3. ORTHOTOMUS MAJOR, sp. n.

Adult male. Allied to *O. erythropterus* (Jardine), but much larger; the bill is light horn-colour instead of black, the forehead and top of the head vinous red, while the chest and rest of the underparts are much paler, being white, washed with very pale cinnamon, especially on the belly, thighs, and under tail-coverts. Iris light hazel; bill and legs light horn-colour. Total length about 6·4 inches, culmen 0·8, wing 2·5, tail 2·7, tarsus 0·92.

Hab. Getemma, Abyssinia: 14th March, 1899.

4. PSALIDOPROCNE BLANFORDI, sp. n.

Adult male. Most nearly allied to *P. pristoptera* (Rüpp.), but the whole of the upper parts black, glossed with dark green; the underparts darker than the upper surface, and with less green gloss. Iris brown; bill and legs black. Total length about 6·0 inches, exposed part of culmen 0·2, wing 4·3, tail 3·1, tarsus 0·45.

Hab. Bilo, Abyssinia: 4th March, 1899.

5. SPORÆGINTHUS MARGARITÆ, sp. n.

Adult male. General colour above, including the top of the head, dull earthy brown; rump and upper tail-coverts dull crimson; lores, sides of the face, and ear-coverts brownish cinnamon; rest of underparts pale cinnamon-buff, inclining to brownish on the sides of the body; tips of the flank-feathers pink; under tail-coverts white; rectrices brownish black, the two outer pairs inclining to whitish on the outer margin and towards the tip. Iris brown; bill red; legs dark brown. Total length about 4·5 inches, culmen 0·4, wing 1·85, tail 1·8, tarsus 0·55.

Hab. Gelongol, Abyssinia: 13th March, 1899.

6. MELANOBUCCO LEUCOGENYS, sp. n.

Male (not quite adult). Allied to *M. undatus* (Rüpp.), but easily distinguished by having the hinder parts of the cheeks and sides of the neck pure white; the middle of the throat white, tinged with yellow, some of the feathers being tipped with scarlet, and the outer margins of the quills and rectrices, as well as the tips of the upper tail-coverts, golden yellow, instead of pale whitish yellow (Naples yellow). Iris pale yellow; bill and legs black. Total length about 5·8 inches, culmen 0·75, wing 3·1, tail 1·9, tarsus 0·7.

Hab. Konduro, Abyssinia: 25th March, 1899.

7. BARBATULA XANTHOSTICTA, sp. n.

Adult male and female. Most nearly allied to *B. extoni* (Layard) from South-east Africa, but distinguished by having the white middles to all the feathers of the interscapular region and back tipped with golden yellow. Iris brown; bill and legs black. Total length about 4·0 inches, culmen 0·54, wing 2·35, tail 1·25, tarsus 0·55.

Hab. Chellia, Abyssinia: 8th March, 1899.

8. CAPRIMULGUS STELLATUS, sp. n.

A very distinct species, perhaps most nearly allied *C. griseatus*, Gray.

Adult male. General colour of upper parts earthy brown, with very fine vermiculations of black and greyish, most distinct on the head and neck; each feather of the crown and scapulars ornamented near the extremity of the shaft with a star-shaped black spot margined externally with buff, the external buff markings being especially conspicuous on the scapulars; the wing-coverts and innermost secondaries similarly ornamented with buff, edged internally with black; the markings on the rectrices very similar to those of *C. griseatus*, but the white markings on the four outer primaries much narrower and the red bars on the inner quills much wider and more distinct; underparts very similar to those of *C. griseatus*, but the chest and breast darker and more uniform; two outer pairs of tail-feathers black, irregularly barred with rufous and with only the terminal part

(·08 inch) of both webs pure white. Iris brown; bill black; legs brown. Total length about 10·0 inches, exposed part of culmen 0·45, wing 6·1, tail 4·3, tarsus 0·72.

Hab. River Kassim, Abyssinia: 18th January, 1899.

9. Myrmecocichla dubia, sp. n.

Adult. Allied to *M. melanura* (Temm.), but larger, and with the under tail-coverts brownish-black, edged with sandy buff instead of white, and the under wing-coverts dusky instead of whitish. Iris brown; bill and legs black. Total length about 6·5 inches, culmen (imperfect) about 0·7, wing 3·15, tail 2·5, tarsus 0·9.

Hab. Fontaly, Abyssinia: 17th January, 1899.

10. Francolinus tetraoninus, sp. n.

Adult female. Most nearly allied to *F. schuetti*, Cab., but distinguished by having the dark middles to the feathers of the nape, interscapular region, and wing-coverts but faintly indicated and the chest and breast nearly uniform greyish brown. Iris brown; bill dull orange-red; legs and feet orange-red. Total length 12·5 inches, culmen 1·05, wing 6 5, tail 2·65, tarsus 1·65.

Hab. Mendie, Abyssinia: 18th April, 1899.

11. Francolinus harwoodi, sp. n.

Adult male. Most nearly allied to *F. natalensis*, Smith, and *F. icterorhynchus*, Heugl. From the former it may be distinguished by having the feathers of the occiput and back of the neck black, narrowly margined with white, producing a strongly squamated appearance; the chest, upper part of the breast, and sides of the body greyish brown, ornamented with narrow concentric black and white bands; the breast, belly, and rest of the underparts pale ochraceous, with a few sub-concentric black markings. It resembles *F. icterorhynchus* in having the upper parts indistinctly barred with pale greyish brown, the inner webs of the primary-quills mottled with pale rufous, and the ground-colour of the breast and belly pale ochraceous. Iris brown; bill, naked skin round eye, and legs red. Total length about 14·5 inches, culmen 1·15, wing 7·1, tail 3·3, tarsus 2·1.

Hab. Aheafeg, Abyssinia : 7th February, 1899.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, December 13th, 1899, at 8.30 p.m., at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street ; the Dinner at 7 o'clock.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater,	R. Bowdler Sharpe,	W. E. de Winton,
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Sec. & Treas.*

NOTICE.

The Meeting in *January* will be held on the 17th. On this occasion it is proposed to hold an exhibition of lantern-slides, portraying various episodes in Bird-life, especially photographs of nests and eggs taken by Members of the Club. The Editor therefore earnestly requests that all Members who have photographs of nests *in situ*, or other objects of ornithological interest for exhibition, will show them by means of the lantern on the 17th of January. The Editor will be glad to receive, as early as possible in January, a list of the slides proposed to be shown by any Member on this occasion.—*R. B. S.*

The Secretary and Treasurer wishes to call the attention of the Members to the necessity of returning the cards signifying their intention to *dine* at the Frascati Restaurant, at least *three* days before any meeting of the Club takes place. At the last meeting *eleven* Members only gave notice to the Secretary of their wish to come to the dinner, while more Members turned up at the last moment, for whom provision had to be made. Attention to the rule that Members who intend to dine should notify the Secretary of the fact, will much oblige him and save a great deal of trouble.—*W. E. de W.*

name of *M. cyanostictus*, Cab., in the 'Catalogue of Birds.' The bird called *M. meridionalis* by Dr. Sharpe was in truth the true *M. cyanostictus* of Cabanis, as Mr. Hartert had ascertained from a careful comparison of the original description and from a personal examination of the type in the Berlin Museum. He therefore proposed for the East African bird, *M. cyanostictus*, Sharpe et auct. (nec Cabanis), the amended name of

MELITTOPHAGUS SHARPEI.

Further notes on these species of Bee-eater would be published in an early part of the 'Novitates Zoologicæ.'

Mr. F. D. GODMAN forwarded the descriptions of two apparently new species of Peruvian birds:—

+XENOPIPO SUBALARIS, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Similis *X. atronitenti*, sed subalaribus et axillaribus niveis distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·9 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 3·0, caudæ 1·95, tarsi 0·6.

♀ *ad.* Similis ♀ *X. atronitentis*, sed obscurior, sordidè olivascenti-viridis, abdomine minimè flavicanti, et subalaribus niveis distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·0 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 2·8, caudæ 1·9, tarsi 0·6.

Hab. Guayabamba, N. Peru (*O. T. Baron*).

+COLUMBA VINA, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Similis *C. flavirostri*, Wagl., et *C. rufinæ*, Salvin, sed rostro ad basin flavo, ad apicem nigro: ab illo notæo pulchrè vinaceo, ab hoc pileo et gutture vinaceo distinguenda. Long. tot. 14·0 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 8·1, caudæ 5·0, tarsi 0·95.

Hab. Vina, Huamachuco, N. Peru (*O. T. Baron*).

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE described as new the following species of African birds:—

ANDROPADUS LÆTISSIMUS, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Colore *Xenocichæ ictericæ* ex Indiâ, sed præpectore paullulum olivascenti-viridi adumbrato: subcaudalibus olivascenti-flavis, hypochondriis concoloribus, nec lætè flavis distinguendus. Long. tot. 9·0 poll., culm. 0·85, alæ 4·4, caudæ 3·8, tarsi 1·0.

Hab. Nandi, Equat. Africa (*F. J. Jackson*).

PARISOMA JACKSONI, sp. n.

♂ *ad.* Similis *P. lugenti,* Rüpp., sed pileo brunneo, dorso concolore distinguendus. Long. tot. 5·5 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·6, caudæ 2·4, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Mt. Elgon, Equat. Africa (*F. J. Jackson*).

Obs. This specimen was referred ('Ibis,' 1892, p. 302) to *Parisoma lugens* (Rüpp.), but the rediscovery of the true *P. lugens* in Southern Abyssinia showed that the Elgon bird was a distinct species, and the describer was indebted to Mr. Ogilvie Grant for drawing his attention to the differences in the two forms.

EUPRINODES HILDEGARDÆ, sp. n.

♂. Similis *E. schistaceo,* Cass., sed rectricibus externis tantùm albo marginatis, haud omninò albis, et pectore pallidè cervino distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·0 poll., culm. 0·4, alæ 1·8, caudæ 1·75, tarsi 0·6.

Hab. Athi river, Masai Land (*Dr. S. L. Hinde*).

BUBO MACKINDERI, sp. n.

♀ *ad.* Similis *B. capensi,* sed subtùs maculis magnis nigris triquetris notatus, hypochondriis sparsiùs nigro fasciatis, et maculis nigris triquetris notatis. Long. tot. 22·5 poll., culm. 1·8, alæ 16·4, caudæ 8·2, tarsi 3·25.

♂ *ad.* Similis feminæ, sed minor. Long. tot. 21 poll., alæ 14·6.

Hab. Mount Kenia, E. Africa (13,000 feet).

Dr. SHARPE also exhibited a series of specimens from the New Hebrides group of islands, procured by Capt. A. M. Farquhar, of H.M.S. 'Wallaroo,' and recently presented by him to the British Museum. Many rare species, such as *Aplonis rufipennis,* Layard, were in the collection, and the following, which appeared to be new, were described :—

1. LALAGE FLAVOTINCTA, sp. n.

Similis *L. banksianæ,* sed pectore toto, uropygio, secundariis intimis, tectricum et rectricum apicibus pulchrè flavis. Long. tot. 6·2 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·0, caudæ 2·3, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Ins. 'Espiritu Santo' dictâ.

2. **Rhipidura sancta**, sp. n.

Similis *R. verreauxi* ex Novâ Caledoniâ, sed pileo et facie laterali nigricantibus, gutture et præpectore griseo-albidis, hoc sparsiùs nigro maculato distinguenda. Long. tot. 7·5 poll., culm. 0·65, alæ 3·1, caudæ 3·5, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Ins. 'Espiritu Santo' dictâ.

3. **Clytorhynchus grisescens**, sp. n.

Similis *C. pachycephaloidi*, sed loris, facie laterali, gutture et præpectore grisescentibus distinguendus. Long. tot. 8·8 poll., culm. 0·95, alæ 3·4, caudæ 3·05, tarsi 0·7.

Hab. Ins. 'Espiritu Santo' dictâ.

4. **Clytorhynchus vatensis**, sp. n.

Similis *C. pachycephaloidi*, sed rostro longiore, loris et facie laterali fuscescentibus, minimè nigris, subcaudalibus albido marginatis distinguendus. Long. tot. 7·5 poll., culm. 1·05, alæ 3·6, caudæ 3·3, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Ins. 'Vaté' dictâ.

5. **Glyciphila notabilis**, sp. n.

Staturâ *G. fasciatæ* (Forst.) ex Novâ Caledoniâ, sed gastræo pallidè cinereo, corporis lateribus cinerascentibus, brunneo striatis, distinguenda. Notæo brunneo, concolore, pileo nigricante, supercilio punctatim albo-maculato, facie laterali quoque nigricante, minutè albido punctulatâ insignis. Long. tot. 7·5 poll., culm. 1·3, alæ 3·5, caudæ 2·95, tarsi 1·2.

Hab. in ins. 'Vanua Lava' dictâ.

6. **Halcyon farquhari**, sp. n.

Similis *H. leucopygio*, sed uropygio ultramarino dorso concolore distinguendus: torque collari albo: pileo nigro, fasciâ superciliari supra-paroticâ ultramarinâ: gutture toto et colli lateribus albis: præpectore et gastræo reliquo aurantiaco-cinnamomeis. Long. tot. 8·2 poll., culm. 1·5, alæ 3·45, caudæ 2·3, tarsi 0·5.

Hab. Ins. 'Malikolo' et 'Espiritu Santo' dictis.

Obs. Ad sectionem Alcedinidarum '*Cyanalcyon*' dictam referendus, et forsan *Cyanalcyon farquhari* dicendus.

Mr. Sclater gave a short account of his recent journey to the Cape of Good Hope, and concluded with the following remarks on some of the birds of the Cape Peninsula:—

"In the suburbs of Capetown and in the immediate vicinity of that city, where I spent the greater part of my short stay in South Africa, birds, it must be confessed, are by no means abundant, either in species or in individuals. Although I was always on the look out for them and made short excursions into the surrounding country nearly every day, mainly for the purpose of observing them, I did not succeed in recognizing positively more than from 20 to 25 species, and of some of these I saw but very few examples.

"The commonest and most all-pervading bird in Capetown and its vicinity at the time of year when I was there (September and October, answering to our March and April) was certainly the Cape Dove (*Turtur capicola*). The somewhat harsh and grating love-call of this species could be heard at all times of the day, both in the city and suburbs, although it was not always easy to discover the exact position of the utterer. The call is something like the three syllables '*kah-kay-whoo,*' with the last note much prolonged. The bird was evidently intending to breed everywhere, like our Wood-Pigeon in the parks of London and Paris. I also occasionally saw and heard a rather smaller Dove with a much softer and quite different call, which I take to have been *Turtur senegalensis*.

"The other birds that I most frequently noticed in the gardens at Capetown were the Cape Sparrow (*Passer arcuatus*), the Cape Wagtail (*Motacilla capensis*), and the Collared Shrike (*Lanius collaris*).

"The Cape Sparrow is certainly not nearly so abundant as its British representative in London, but seems to have nearly similar habits. It was commencing to breed in the gardens, and builds nests similar to those of its European ally. The Cape Wagtail may be seen pursuing insects on the well-kept grass-plots surrounding the Parliament House, and is quite tame and familiar.

"The Collared Shrike, which I saw every day on passing through the Municipal Gardens up to the Museum, shows its pied plumage well amongst the green foliage of the trees. It is a most ferocious little villain, and if care is not taken will enter the verandahs and kill the pet birds there suspended in their cages. Two instances of the death of canaries in this way occurred during my stay in Capetown. The Olivaceous Thrush (*Turdus olivaceus*), the 'Sprew' Starling (*Amydrus morio*), the so-called Cape 'Robin' (*Cossypha caffra*), and the Bakbakiri Bush-Shrike (*Laniarius bakbakiri*) are four other species that are occasionally seen in the gardens of the town and suburbs, but I should not call any one of them abundant. The Olivaceous Thrush picks about on the ground like our Song-Thrush, and the Bush-Shrike has somewhat similar habits, but attracts attention by a variety of sweet whistling notes and is said to have imitative faculties.

"A loquat-tree (*Photinia japonica*) with ripening fruit is the most likely place to see the Cape Bulbul (*Pycnonotus capensis*). The ridiculous claim of this bird to figure in the British List should be scouted by all sensible persons. It is a strictly local South-African species and does not range far north.

"The pretty Yellow Weaver-bird (*Sitagra capensis*) I was delighted to find busy in constructing its excessively neat hanging nests in many gardens of the city and suburbs. One small community had selected a willow-tree close to the Public Library, near the celebrated Oak-walk, for the purpose. I never failed to stop as I passed by every day to admire the sprightly and active way in which these little birds exercised their craft. In another spot the ill-advised builders had selected a bunch of papyrus-stalks in an ornamental pond for the seat of their operations. So soon as the nest was complete the weight of the structure broke the papyrus down and caused the fall of stalk and nest into the water beneath. But the indefatigable birds would take no heed of this event and only commenced their fruitless work again on an adjoining stalk.

"In a garden at Sea-point, the marine suburb of Capetown, I was much delighted, on an afternoon in September, to witness the proceedings of a small flock of Colies (believed to have been *Colius capensis*). They were creeping about in a small tree-like shrub, and having searched it thoroughly through proceeded to another. Their curious mouse-like climbing antics and the positions assumed are known to us from captive specimens in the Regent's Park, but this was my only opportunity of witnessing their evolutions in a natural condition. As the eggs of this isolated form—one of the most distinctive Ethiopian types of bird-life—are not well known, I beg leave to exhibit some specimens of them.

"On the margin of the pond on Sea-point Common I also noticed specimens of a Pipit (*Anthus* sp. inc.) and a small Shore-Plover (*Ægialitis*), but could not be certain as to the species.

"Two ascents of the well-known and most picturesque mountain which rises to a height of some 2500 feet above Capetown introduced me to several birds which I had not seen below. The splendid *Protea*-shrubs just coming into flower were the resort of two forms of bird-life which were quite new to me *in naturâ*. These were the long-tailed *Promerops cafer*—another exclusively Ethiopian type—and the Sun-birds (*Anthobaphes* and *Cinnyris*). *Promerops* appears to have been modified specially to feed on the nectar of the Proteaceæ which are so abundant on the hills of Southern Africa, but, no doubt, also avails itself of the insects attracted to the same flowers. On Table Mountain I also observed specimens of a very fine Rock-Thrush—*Monticola explorator,* I believe—and an occasional Crow (*Corvus scapulatus*). Of the latter a single specimen appears to have taken up its abode in the garden of Groot Schuur in the society of the Rooks which Mr. Rhodes has lately imported from Europe.

"On the Cape Flats just outside Capetown the Secretary-bird (*Serpentarius secretarius*) still builds its nest every year, though I did not myself see it in this locality. A pair of young Secretary-birds now in the Museum Grounds at Capetown were obtained here in 1898, and two eggs were taken from the same nest on the 15th October this year. It is curious to mention that our familiar Heron (*Ardea cinerea*) inhabits the 'vleys' in the same district, and that the Great

Crested Grebe (*Podicipes cristatus*) is a regular breeder there.

"Finally, I may mention that enormous flocks of the Dominican Gull (*Larus dominicanus*) and the Cape Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax capensis*) frequent the harbour of Table Bay, and are accompanied by small parties of the Cape Penguin (*Spheniscus demersus*). Outside the harbour the ships are likewise attended by numerous Giant Petrels (*Majaqueus æquinoctialis*) and occasional Albatrosses (*Diomedea melanophrys*)."

Mr. E. Bidwell exhibited an egg of the Great Auk (*Plautus impennis*), which had been lent to him by Mr. Henry Stevens, to whom it had that day been consigned for sale. At the moment nothing was known of its history, but particulars would shortly be forthcoming and would be contributed to the 'Ibis.' This egg was undoubtedly the handsomest example of the 'zoned' type in existence. Its discovery brought the number of known eggs of the Great Auk to 72.

Mr. E. Lort Phillips exhibited several interesting species of birds obtained during his expedition to Somali Land in the spring of 1899, among them being four examples of *Francolinus castaneicollis*, Salvad., obtained on Mt. Wagga. The egg of *Spreo superbus* was obtained during the expedition and proved to be perfectly blue, without any spots.

Mr. Charles Hose, whose reappearance, after six years' absence in Borneo, was warmly greeted by the members of the Club, exhibited some rare birds obtained by him. Among them was a specimen of *Botaurus stellaris*, hitherto unrecorded from Borneo; a pair of *Pitta cærulea* with the nestling (showing that the species was indigenous to Northern Borneo); and examples of *Baza borneensis* and *Spizaëtus alboniger*, affording an extraordinary instance of mimetic colouring in the plumage of the two species.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, January 17th, 1900, at 8.30 P.M., at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 o'clock.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, *Chairman.*
R. BOWDLER SHARPE, *Editor.*
W. E. DE WINTON, *Sec. & Treas.*

NOTICE.

MEMBERS are reminded that the feature of the next Meeting of the Club will be the exhibition of lantern-slides. The Editor and the Secretary will be glad to receive the names of Members who desire to take part in this exhibition.

At the last Meeting of the Club it was unanimously decided, on the motion of the Hon. Walter Rothschild, that on an early occasion, to be determined by the Committee, an exhibition of albinistic varieties of birds should be held. The Committee will be glad to hear from any Member who will contribute to this exhibition.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXVIII.

THE sixty-seventh Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of January, 1900.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—BOYD ALEXANDER, E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, ABEL CHAPMAN, A. COWIE, A. F. CROSSMAN, P. CROWLEY, R. A. CROWLEY, F. CURTIS, Dr. F. D. DREWITT, J. GERRARD, W. R. OGILVIE GRANT, F. H. CARRUTHERS GOULD, E. HARTERT, H. KNIGHT HORSFIELD, G. E. LODGE, J. G. MILLAIS, H. C. MONRO, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, E. W. OATES, H. J. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., E. LORT PHILLIPS, ROBERT H. READ, Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, M.P., A. D. SAPSWORTH, H. SAUNDERS, H. SCHERREN, Dr. R. BOWDLER SHARPE, E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, WATKIN WATKINS, L. W. WIGLESWORTH, H. F. WITHERBY.

Visitors: F. ALTHAUS, B. BRISTOWE, J. C. CROWLEY, W. DOHERTY, C. E. FAGAN, W. GOODFELLOW, T. A. HAUXWELL, C. KEARTON, R. LODGE, D. S. MELDRUM, Lieut. C. E. MONRO, R.N., P. MUSTERS, H. STEVENS, H. S. VENABLES.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE described the following species from the Mackinder expedition to Mt. Kenya:—

1. HYPHANTORNIS CAMBURNI, sp. n.

♀. Similis *H. xanthopi*, sed minor, subtùs lætiùs flava:

supercilio flavo paululum conspicuo, sed rostro multo minore præcipuè distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·3, caudæ 2·5, tarsi 1·1.

Hab. Mt. Kenya, British East Africa.

2. PINAROCHROA ERNESTI, sp. n.

P. similis *P. hypospodiæ*, Shelley, sed suprà suturatior: subtùs isabellino-brunnea, nec grisescens, gutture tantum cinerascente: subalaribus et axillaribus rufescentibus distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·7 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 3·1, caudæ 1·85, tarsi 1·2.

Hab. Mt. Kenya.

3. CAMPOTHERA HAUSBURGI, sp. n.

Similis *C. tæniolæmati*, Reichen. & Neum., sed clarius viridis, et faciei gastræique fasciolis tenuissimis et pallidioribus distinguenda. Long. tot. 7·0 poll., culm. 0·85, alæ 4·35, caudæ 2·55, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Mt. Kenya.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT described the following new species from the Five-finger Mountains, in the interior of Hainan, collected by the late Mr. John Whitehead:—

1. SIPHIA HAINANA, sp. n.

Adult male. Allied to the male of *S. pallidipes*, Jerd., but much smaller—the blue on the upper parts darker and brighter, the forehead and superciliary stripes bright cobalt-blue, and the flanks and sides of the belly grey, slightly washed with fulvous.

Total length 5·0 inches, culmen 0·6, wing 2·65, tail 2·3, tarsus 0·65.

Adult female. Differs conspicuously from the female of *S. pallidipes*, the general colour of the head and upper parts being darker and more uniform, the upper tail-coverts and outer webs of the tail-feathers olive-brown tinged with rufous instead of chestnut, and the colour of the throat, fore-neck, and chest pale rust-colour instead of deep orange-rust.

Total length 5·0 inches, culmen 0·6, wing 2·6, tail 2·15, tarsus 0·65.

2. **Harpactes hainanus**, sp. n.

Adult male. Differs from the male of *H. erythrocephalus*, Gould, in having the head and nape uniform dull purplish crimson and the upper parts much browner, especially the mantle and upper back; the lower back, rump, and upper tail-coverts only being washed with chestnut, the lower part of the chest next the white band dull crimson instead of scarlet-crimson, and the white tips to the outer tail-feathers shorter, the longest scarcely exceeding 1·1 inch.

Total length 12·0 inches, wing 5·5, tail 6·0.

Adult female. Differs from the female of *H. erythrocephalus* in having the general colour of the upper parts and chest much browner.

Total length 12·0 inches, wing 5·3, tail 5·7.

Mr. Grant also described the following new species from Southern China, collected by Capt. A. M. S. Wingate:—

1. **Sitta yunnanensis**, sp. n.

Adult male. Most nearly allied to *S. montium*, La Touche, from which it is at once distinguished by its much more slender bill and the entire absence of chestnut from the sides, flanks, and under tail-coverts, which are uniform greyish buff, like the rest of the underparts. Iris brown.

Total length in the flesh 4·5 inches, culmen 0·65, wing 2·8, tail 1·5, tarsus 0·65.

Hab. Near Wei-yuan, Southern Yunnan. 12th March, 1899.

2. **Phylloscopus subaffinis**, sp. n.

Adult male and female. Differ from *P. affinis*, Tickell, in having the terminal half of the lower mandible, as well as the legs and feet, very dark horn-brown; the underparts strongly washed with dull fulvous; the clear yellow of the underparts, so conspicuous in *P. affinis*, being merely indicated on the middle of the breast and belly. The species resembles *P. affinis* in the shape of the wing, the second primary being about equal to the tenth. Iris black.

Total length in the flesh 4·5 inches, culmen 0·5, wing 1·95–2·05, tail 1·8, tarsus 0·75.

Hab. Pu-an-ting, South-west Kwei-chu, 27th January, 1899.

3. SIVA WINGATEI, sp. n.

Adult male. Allied to both *S. cyanuroptera*, Hodgs., and *S. sordida*, Hume. It resembles both in the general colour of the upper parts, the grey of the head and neck, shading into olive-brown on the back and fulvous on the rump and upper tail-coverts. It further resembles *S. cyanuroptera* and differs from *S. sordida* in having the chin, throat, sides, and flanks washed with vinous grey. It differs from *S. cyanuroptera* and resembles *S. sordida* in having no white tips to the bastard wing-feathers. From both it differs in having only the inner webs of the outer pair of tail-feathers white to the tip; moreover, the feathers on the forehead, lores, and chin are strongly washed with rusty pink, though it is just possible that this colour may be due to stain. Iris brown.

Total length 6·0 inches, culmen 0·6, wing 2·5, tail 2·5, tarsus 0·9.

Hab. Near Yunnan city, E. Yunnan, 27th February, 1899.

Mr. GRANT further described three additional new species from Southern Abyssinia, collected by Mr. H. Weld-Blundell and Lord Lovat:—

1. DENDROPICUS SIMONI, sp. n.

Adult male. Allied to the male of *D. zanzibari*, Malh., but easily distinguished by the following characters:—The forehead and fore part of the crown are darker brown; the cross-bars on the interscapular region and back indistinct and of a dull greenish-white colour; the wing-coverts brownish black, the lesser and median with a white spot at the extremity; the white feathers of the sides of the head and ear-coverts *striped with black on either side,* those of the throat with narrow black shaft-stripes; the chest and breast more strongly marked, and the *upper surface* of the shafts of the primary and secondary quills, except the extreme basal portion, *brown.* Iris brown; bill dark slate; legs slate.

Total length about 5·5 inches, culmen 0·7, wing 3·2, tail 1·6, tarsus 0·6.

Hab. Konduro, Abyssinia, 25th March, 1899.

2. INDICATOR LOVATI, sp. n.

Adult female. Resembles *I. minor*, Steph., in the colour of the upper parts, wings, and tail, but differs from that species in having the heavy black moustachial streaks confluent on the chin; the throat dull grey, with a slight greenish tinge, uniform in colour with the breast; and the longer flank-feathers dark smoky brown, edged with white on the sides.

From *I. conirostris* (Cass.), which it approaches in the latter characters, it may be at once distinguished by the greyish-brown colour of the head and neck and the much duller yellow colouring of the back and wing-coverts. Iris brown; bill and legs black.

Total length about 6·0 inches, culmen 0·5, wing 3·5, tail 2·25, tarsus 0·55.

Hab. Gelongol, Abyssinia, 13th March, 1899.

3. LISSOTIS LOVATI, sp. n.

Adult male. Most nearly allied to *L. melanogaster* (Rüpp.), which it resembles in general appearance, but the middle three-fifths of the outer webs of the secondary quills are pure white to the shaft. In this respect it approaches *L. hartlaubi* (Heugl.), but the differently-marked plumage of the upper parts, as well as the black rump and tail, serve to distinguish the latter species at a glance. Iris pale yellowish brown; bill dark; legs pale yellowish white.

Total length about 23·0 inches, culmen 1·95, wing 13·8, tail 7·6, tarsus 5·1.

Hab. Bilo, Abyssinia, 10th March, 1899.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited two hybrids of Humming-birds. One, obtained in Ecuador by Mr. Simons, combined in a striking way the shape and colours of *Eugenia imperatrix* and *Heliodoxa jacula jamesoni*, both found in that country; another, obtained by Mr. O. T. Baron in California, was intermediate between *Calypte costæ* and *Stellula calliope*.

These specimens are to be described in detail in the 'Novitates Zoologicæ.'

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD made some remarks on the *Lalage* of the Samoan Islands, which he proposed to call

LALAGE SHARPEI, sp. n.

Bill yellow, tip brownish, upper surface greyish brown, sides of rump white, remiges deep brown edged with dirty white. Tail deep brown, all the feathers except the central pair tipped with white, the two outer pairs white for the apical third. Underside white, with many pale brown cross-bars on sides of breast and flanks; under tail-coverts white; under wing-coverts creamy white. "Iris white." Wing 77–81 mm., culmen 19–20, tail 55–60, tarsus 21.

Hab. Upolu, Samoa.

Mr. Rothschild observed:—"Dr. Sharpe was the first to draw attention to this bird (Cat. B. iv. p. 98), but he considered it to be the young of the *Lalage pacifica*. However, the young examples of that species now exhibited from the same place prove it to be quite distinct, being dark brown above and heavily barred below. I am convinced that the type of my new species is fully adult, and that the immature plumage will prove to be equally distinct.

"The bill of *Lalage sharpei* is longer, narrower, and more flattened than in *L. pacifica*."

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD further exhibited and remarked on some specimens of typical *Cracticus quoyi*, Lesson, from New Guinea, and also on three specimens of what had hitherto been called *C. quoyi* from Queensland. In the birds from New Guinea the young were black, like the adult birds, while in the Queensland bird the young was reddish brown and striped. The latter had been lately described as a new species under the name of *Cracticus rufescens*. It was by no means definitely ascertained whether these rufous birds were the only form of the young on the Australian continent, and therefore Mr. Rothschild did not wish to decide as to the validity or otherwise of Mr. De Vis's *Cracticus rufescens*; but the fact that, so far as at present known, the young on New Guinea were always black, showed that we had to deal with at least two distinct races. These birds had been sent to Mr. Rothschild by Mr. Herbert C. Robinson, of Liverpool, who wished them to be exhibited to the Club.

Mr. H. J. Pearson exhibited, on behalf of Mr. P. Musters, a pair of Lesser White-fronted Geese (*Anser erythropus*), with the eggs, taken by the latter gentleman in the north of Norway.

Mr. P. Crowley exhibited some photographs of interesting eggs from his collection.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to an exhibition of lantern-slides, in which the following members and their friends took part:—

1. Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe.—Birds and nests from Northern Norway.
2. Hon. Walter Rothschild.—Pictures of Bird-life on the Island of Laysan.
3. Mr. H. J. Pearson.—Pictures illustrative of his memoir on the birds of Russian Lapland (Ibis, 1899, p. 520).
4. Mr. F. Curtis.—Some pictures of Rough-legged Buzzards, taken during Mr. Pearson's expedition to Novaya Zemlya.
5. Mr. Cherry Kearton.—A remarkable set of photographs of bird-life, from the cliffs of the west of Scotland, Ireland, and various localities in Great Britain.
6. Mr. Horace Monro.—Some very interesting pictures of birds and eggs from Holland and various parts of Great Britain.
7. Mr. R. Lodge.—A series of photographs of English bird-life and of scenes from Southern Spain.
8. Mr. N. F. Ticehurst.—Photographs of English bird-life.
9. Mr. Henry Stevens.—Photographs of the newly discovered Great Auk's egg, and of some other biological subjects.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 21st of February, 1900, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	W. E. DE WINTON,
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXIX.

The sixty-eighth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of February, 1900.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, A. Cowie, A. F. Crossman, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, Dr. F. D. Drewitt, J. Gerrard, F. H. C. Gould, E. Hartert, G. E. Lodge, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, J. G. Millais, H. C. Monro, E. Neale, R. Nesham, Heatley Noble, E. W. Oates, C. E. Pearson, H. J. Pearson, H. L. Popham, Hon. W. Rothschild, M.P., A. D. Sapsworth, H. Saunders, F. C. Selous, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), N. F. Ticehurst, W. Watkins, C. Whymper, J. Wilkinson, H. F. Witherby, L. A. Williams, A. F. R. Wollaston, J. Young.

Visitors: A. Brooking, W. Goodfellow, C. B. Hill, J. Maltwood, T. A. Hauxwell, J. Harbottle.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild exhibited an example of a new species of Hemipode from North Queensland, sent to him by Mr. Herbert C. Robinson, who had described it as follows:—

Turnix olivii, sp. n.

♀. Most nearly allied to *T. castanonota* (Gould) ♀ and resembling it in general coloration, but differing in its much larger size, in having the forehead grey without white tips to the frontal feathers, and with the superciliaries and sides of the face not conspicuously marked with white; the feathers of the lower neck and breast with a decided wash of oily greyish green and with slightly indicated bars of dull greyish, without white centres as in *T. castanonota.* "Iris yellow; feet yellow; bill brown" (dull greenish olive in skin).

Total length 183 mm., wing 106, tail 48, culmen 23, tarsus 25.

Hab. North Queensland (Cooktown, June 25th, 1899).

The species was named after its collector, Mr. E. Olive, who is known in Australia as a careful and accurate field-naturalist.

Mr. Rothschild also exhibited a specimen of *Geocichla papuensis* of Seebohm, which he had recently received from the Aroa River, British New Guinea. He pointed out the mature characters of the species, which was originally described from an immature specimen hitherto unique in the British Museum.

Mr. Harry F. Witherby exhibited a specimen of *Limosa lapponica* in down, obtained out of a brood of four from a marsh near the Imandra Lake, in Russian Lapland, on the 16th of July, 1899.

Mr. Ernst Hartert showed some nesting-boxes for the encouragement of birds which breed in holes. Mr. Hartert stated that he had very little faith in the customary methods of bird-protection, which consisted of praising and overrating the usefulness of birds, and of advocating more and more stringent bird-protection laws.

There was, however, another kind of bird-protection, which might be called "practical" protection. This originated from the understanding that it was not generally the killing of certain birds that made many of our species become scarcer, but the progress of cultivation of the ground, the careful keeping of our gardens, modern forestry, and similar reasons. All these causes were diminishing the nesting opportunities of many birds and their supply of natural food. Therefore the "practical" bird-protection, which was so warmly advocated on the Continent by Freiherr von Berlepsch, aimed at nothing less than to furnish new breeding-places for useful birds, natural food in hard winter-times, and cover and protection against their enemies. The feeding in winter-time was not so easy, and one might read Berlepsch's book on this subject with advantage. The planting of thick bushes, especially those with thorns and berry-bearing species as were liked by birds, instead of the foreign ever-greens and shrubs which only a few birds really loved, was not within the means of every one, and could only be done by landowners who were interested in birds; but the putting up of nesting-boxes could be done almost everywhere, in gardens, parks, and woods, on a large or small scale. In Germany, nesting-boxes were a very old institution, but they had never met with general approval, as they had never been quite successful. Now, however, von Berlepsch had invented nesting-boxes like those exhibited, and they were a most wonderful success. They were imitations of Woodpecker's holes, and were readily accepted by birds, especially by Tits. They must, however, be put up properly, and in Berlepsch's book on bird-protection some good instructions were given. Mr. Charles Rothschild and Mr. Walter Rothschild had introduced them on a small scale in various places, and Mr. Hartert hoped to be able to report concerning their success during the next session of the Club, and he trusted that other ornithologists would advocate them. They were made in great numbers, and could be had for about sixpence each, from a firm in Westphalia, who were making them according to Berlepsch's instruction.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited and explained an instrument invented by Mr. L. Wiglesworth, which he called a "Ratiometer," the object of which was to ascertain the proportions that different-sized specimens (or parts of specimens) bear one to another. Mr. Hartert also announced that

Mr. Wiglesworth was experimenting with some other instruments likely to be of use in measuring animals.

Mr. Hartert also read some notes by Mr. L. Wiglesworth (who was not able to be present) about the question "How a Bird-skin should be measured?" Mr. Wiglesworth's remarks were as follows :—

"The identification or distinction of species and sub-species of birds is often rendered a matter of doubt and uncertainty owing to our ignorance of the manner in which our brother ornithologists apply the tape and rule. I myself, when actively engaged at Dresden, felt this want of knowledge hundreds of times. I have measured many specimens, which had previously been measured by careful ornithologists, and obtained different results; and I have been led into error on some occasions and have observed that men very prominent in our science have sometimes also made mistakes for similar reasons. To give an instance: authors sometimes compare Schlegel's wing-measurements with their own. It is not generally known that Schlegel employed the old French inch (= about 1·18 English inch), and that he measured (as Dr. Büttikofer once told me) across the arc of the wing, with a pair of callipers or compasses, and not over the wing, as some other ornithologists do. There are, of course, many kinds of inches besides the English; in Whitaker's Almanack about twenty will be found, though, for scientific purposes, they have now, I believe, all succumbed to the insidious millimetre, except the hardy native of these islands. But it matters not very much how the rule is graduated, so long as we all apply it in a similar manner.

"The principal parts measured are the wing, tail, bill, and tarsus.

"The text-books tell us that the *wing* is measured from carpus to tip. It is sometimes measured over the convex upperside with a tape or flexible band; or, it is measured with a stiff rule placed under the wing, the remiges being straightened out; or, thirdly, with a pair of compasses or callipers, and the natural curve of the feathers not altered.

The difference of the results obtained is very great in cases of birds with a very hollow wing, such as Game-birds, and in no case are the lengths quite the same.

"Next the *tail*: we measure to the tips of the longest feathers, but sometimes from the point where these enter the skin, sometimes from the oil-gland, sometimes, again, from the ends of the feathers within the skin.

"Then the *bill*: it is sometimes measured from the naso-frontal suture to the tip (culmen), or from where the plumes of the forehead impinge upon the culmen, whether at the middle of the culmen or from more advanced feathers on the sides thereof, or, again, it is measured from the cere, or from the nostril, or from the gape. Usually a pair of compasses is employed (straight measurement), but sometimes a tape (for the curve).

"As to the *tarsus,* a small difference results from measuring it in front or behind.

"It appears obvious that it is high time to take measures concerning our measurements, and make rules for our rules! The B.O.C. could probably bring about this desirable result. I would suggest that the Club should adopt one certain method of measurement as the normal method, and that, if no indication is given that any other method has been adopted, it should be understood that the normal measurement has been made. Any departure from this method should be specially stated. Following the precedent of the Stricklandian Code, some one distinguished ornithologist should be asked to draw up a Code of Rules of Measurement. Those interested in the matter could communicate privately with him. His Code would be submitted to the B.O.C. and finally, in the hope of obtaining international acceptance, to the Ornithological Congress in Paris next June."

Mr. HEATLEY NOBLE exhibited a pair of eggs of the Spine-tailed Swift from Nerochinski, and also the nest, eggs, and nestling birds of White's Thrush (*Oreocichla varia*), which had been obtained from Mt. Fuji Yama, in Japan, by Mr. Alan Owston. He considered that these eggs were undoubtedly authentic, and they closely resembled those of the Himalayan *O. dauma*. The nest and eggs obtained by the late Consul Swinhoe, and supposed by him to have been those of White's Thrush, probably belonged to *Merula mandarina*.

Mr. WALTER GOODFELLOW described a new species of Humming-bird, discovered by himself and Mr. Claud Hamilton during their recent travels in Ecuador:—

HELIANTHEA HAMILTONI, sp. n.

H. similis *H. lutetiæ,* sed maculâ frontali aureo-viridi, et gastræi nitore metallico bronzino-viridi, plagâ alari pallidâ cinnamomeâ, nec albicante, distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·0 poll., culm. 1·6, alæ 2·9, caudæ 1·7, tarsi 0·2.

Hab. Papallacta, near Antisana, E. Ecuador.

Of this species Mr. Goodfellow had procured, in February 1899, a series of both male and female specimens, all of which were perfectly constant as regards the characters mentioned above. All the birds from the *western* slope of the Andes of Quito proved to be the true *H. lutetiæ,* of which the travellers had also procured a good series.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited another British-killed specimen of the Levantine Shearwater (*Puffinus yelkouan*), which had been sent by Mr. Charles Smoothy, of Little Baddow, near Chelmsford. The specimen had been obtained at Bridlington Quay in October 1898.

Dr. SHARPE exhibited and described a new species of Bee-eater, obtained by Mr. G. L. Bates on the Rio Benito in French Congo:—

MEROPS BATESIANA, sp. n.

♂. Similis *M. muelleri*, Cass., sed saturatior, facie laterali, colli lateribus et præpectore toto nigris: notæi colore castaneo ubique saturatiore distinguenda. Long. tot. 8·0 poll., culm. 1·4, alæ 3·2, caudæ 2·95, tarsi 0·35.

The specimen from the Benito River differed so much from the figure of the type of *M. muelleri* given by Cassin in the 'Transactions' of the Philadelphia Academy, that Dr. Sharpe had written to Mr. Witmer Stone on the subject. The latter gentleman having assured him that the figure was an accurate rendering of *M. muelleri*, it became evident that not only was the Benito bird distinct, but also the so-called *M. muelleri* from the Gold Coast. This Dr. Sharpe proposed to name in honour of Colonel Northcott, who did excellent work in the Hinterland of the Gold Coast, and was killed at the Modder River in November last.

MEROPS NORTHCOTTI, sp. n.

M. similis *M. muelleri*, Cass., castaneus, sed præpectore nigro, pectore ultramarino et abdomine cyanescente distinguenda. Long. tot. 7·1 poll., culm. 1·4, alæ 3·3, caudæ 3·05, tarsi 0·4.

Hab. Gold Coast (*Shelley Coll. in Mus. Brit.*).

These species may have to be placed, according to Dr. Sharpe, in the genus *Melittophagus*, in which case they would be called *Melittophagus muelleri*, Cass., *M. batesiana* and *M. northcotti*. The type of the last species, however, has the central tail-feathers elongated, but all the other specimens known have the tail square.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT sent the following description of another new species of bird collected by the late Mr. John Whitehead in Hainan:—

GARRULAX SEMITORQUATA, sp. n.

Adult male. Most nearly allied to *G. pectoralis*, Gould, having the ear-coverts similarly striped. It is, however, much smaller and at once distinguished by the following characters:—The black band surrounding the throat is widely interrupted in the middle, the outer webs of the outer primary quills are brownish buff instead of white, and the tips of the tail-feathers are yellowish buff.

Adult female. Differs only from the male in having the white streaks on the ear-coverts more strongly marked.

Iris straw-colour to reddish brown; upper mandible leaden-black; lower mandible and feet leaden-grey.

Total length about 11 inches, culmen 1·25, wing 5·1, tail 4·8, tarsus 1·75.

Hab. Five-finger Mts., interior of Hainan.

Mr. Grant also described a new Shrike from Arabia, obtained by the Percival-Dodson Expedition :—

Telephonus percivali, sp. n.

Adult male. Like *T. blanfordi,* Sharpe, but rather smaller, the bill especially being not nearly so stout ; the fore-neck, chest, and rest of underparts much greyer, and the rufescent margin to the inner web of the quills, so conspicuous in *T. blanfordi,* barely indicated. Iris brown ; bill black ; legs grey.

Total length 7·5 inches, culmen 0·88, wing 3·0, tail 3·4, tarsus 1·2.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 21st of March, 1900, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street ; the dinner at 7 p.m.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater, *Chairman.*	R. Bowdler Sharpe, *Editor.*	W. E. de Winton, *Sec. & Treas.*

SPECIAL NOTICE.

On the 25th of April an exhibition of albinos and colour-variations of birds will take place. Members are invited to show any specimens they may deem of interest.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXII.

[In accordance with the resolution of the Committees of the B. O. Union and the B. O. Club, as announced at the last meeting, the Annual Dinner of the British Ornithologists' Union took place at the Restaurant Frascati on Wednesday, the 16th of May, 1900, coincidently with the Meeting of the Club.]

Chairman: F. D. Godman, D.C.L., F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, W. Fitzherbert-Brockholes, A. Cowie, Philip Crowley, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, A. H. Evans, Earl of Gainsborough, W. R. Ogilvie Grant, E. Hartert, J. E. Harting, Major H. Jones, Hon. Gerald Lascelles, G. E. Lodge, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, H. C. Monro, E. Neale, R. Nesham, F. Nicholson, E. W. Oates, T. Parkin, H. J. Pearson, A. Blayney Percival, F. G. Penrose, M.D., E. Lort Phillips, T. M. Pike, A. E. Price, R. H. Read, Hon. N. C. Rothschild, Hon. Walter Rothschild, D.Sc., M.P., A. D. Sapsworth, Howard Saunders, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), Capt. G. E. Shelley, A. J. Simey, E. Cavendish Taylor, W. B. Tegetmeier, N. F. Ticehurst, Canon H. B. Tristram, F.R.S., H. M. Upcher, H. M. Wallis, Johnson Wilkinson, A. F. R. Wollaston.

Visitors: C. E. Fagan, J. K. Fowler, C. C. Lloyd Jones, E. Wilkinson, Prof. E. Ray Lankester, LL.D., F.R.S. (*Guest of the Club*).

PSEUDALÆMON DELAMEREI, sp. n.

Similis *P. fremantlii* et eodem modo figurata, sed grisescens nec arenaria: corpore subtùs isabellino, hypochondriis brunnescentibus nigro angustè striolatis, et pectore evidenter nigro striolatim maculato distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·5 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·5, caudæ 1·75, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Athi River, Nov. 17, 1899.

ESTRILDA DELAMEREI, sp. n.

E. similis *E. erythronotæ*, et subcaudalibus abdomineque nigris, sed omninò pallidior, et fasciis alæ clarè margaritaceis nec cineraceis; notæo pallidè cinereo-vinaceo: gutture imo et præpectore pallidè roseis: hypochondriis rosaceis, nec coccineis, distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·7 poll., culm. 0·4, alæ 2·1, caudæ 2·25, tarsi 0·6.

Hab. Athi River, Nov. 8, 1899.

Dr. SHARPE gave a short account of the history of the B. O. C. and the work performed by the members since the foundation of the Club eight years ago.

Mr. MEADE-WALDO called the attention of the Union to the way in which rare species of birds were still being persecuted or destroyed in Great Britain. He felt sure that no member of the Union would willingly assist in bringing about this lamentable occurrence, but that in consideration of the persistency with which all our rare breeding birds were annually harried by British egg-collectors, and on that account the great difficulty, if not impossibility, experienced by landed proprietors in preserving them, he considered that the time had come to make a supreme effort. He proposed the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. H. M. Upcher, and carried unanimously:—

> "That any member of the Union, directly or indirectly responsible for the destruction of nest, eggs, young, or parent-birds of any of the species mentioned below—Osprey, Kite, White-tailed Eagle, Honey-Buzzard, Common Buzzard, Hoopoe, Golden Oriole, Ruff, Bittern, and Chough—should be visited with the severest censure of the Union."

A discussion ensued, in which the President and other members took part.

The Hon. G. Lascelles gave an interesting account of the efforts made by the Crown for the preservation of the birds in the New Forest. He lamented that, in spite of the strenuous efforts made, the keepers were only partially successful, although men were specially told off to guard the nesting-place of some rare species. He was pleased to say, however, that on some occasions their efforts had been rewarded with success.

Mr. Fitzherbert-Brockholes exhibited a remarkable nest, jointly constructed and inhabited by a Blackbird (*Merula merula*) and a Hedge-Accentor (*Tharrhaleus modularis*). He gave the following account of the circumstance :—

"The nest was found by my daughter on April 13th in an unfinished condition. It was looked at by her every day, and on the 19th was found finished and containing 1 egg—a Hedge-Sparrow's. On the 20th it contained 2 Hedge-Sparrow's and 1 Blackbird's; on the 21st the score was 3—2, and on the 22nd 4—3. On the 23rd there was no addition to the 4 Hedge-Sparrow's eggs, but the Blackbird had laid a fourth and was found sitting. On the 24th the Blackbird was again found sitting, one of the Hedge-Sparrow's eggs being crushed in the nest and another cracked. The nest was then taken. The latter bears most self-evident proofs of the joint work of the two pairs of birds during the entire process of building, and is therefore totally different from an appropriation of the nest of one pair of birds by another pair, or from two hen birds of one species laying in the same nest, in the way that Partridges occasionally do. The nest was in a thick mass of rhododendrons in my grounds.

"It was unfortunate that my curiosity had not sufficiently aroused when my daughter first told me discovery, but even if I had gone to look at it bef

20th, when it contained its first egg, the bed of rhododendron was so thick and large and the nest was situated so much in the heart of it, that I might have found it impossible to see the Hedge-Sparrow, with its customary skulking habits, actually at work. The whole appearance, however, of the construction of the nest, and the way the eggs were laid, renders this additional proof unnecessary."

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 20th of June, 1900, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

F. D. GODMAN, *Chairman.*

R. BOWDLER SHARPE, *Editor.*

W. E. DE WINTON, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB

No. LXXIII.

The seventy-second Meeting of the Club was held
Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesd
20th of June, 1900.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, J. L. Bo
tis, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), Earl of
F. H. C. Gould, G. E. Lodge, J. G. Mill
T. Parkin, H. L. Patterson, H. J. Pearso
Hon. W. Rothschild, M.P., A. D. S
Selous, F. Sharman, R. Bowdler Sharpe,
E. Cavendish Taylor, N. F. Ticehurst, C.
H. F. Witherby.

Guests: R. W. E. Parker, H. Stevens, G.

Guests of the Club: Dr. L. von Lorenz (Vi
Sushkin (Moscow).

Mr. H. F. Witherby exhibited a male specimen of *Caprimulgus eximius* procured by him on the White Nile near Khartoum, in May 1900. As far as was known this was the fifth example of this bird that had been procured. Three examples were obtained in 1823 or 1824 by Hey, Rüppell's collector, probably near the White Nile. Two of these were at Frankfurt and one at Leyden (see Hartert, Ibis, 1892

[*July 3rd*, 1900.]

p. 279). A fourth was in Mr. Rothschild's collection at Tring. It was collected by Schimper and Baron von Müller and was labelled "Nubia" (see Hartert, 'Novitates Zoologicæ,' vol. i. . 3).

Mr. T. Parkin made some observations on the abundance bird-life noticed by him in the Southern Oceans.

he following is the list of birds obtained during a day's ting in a calm on December 2nd, 1890, in the Cape , when on a voyage to Australia in the clipper ship raon,' South Atlantic Ocean, lat. 39° 51′ S., long. E.

Wandering Albatrosses (*Diomedea exulans*).
Black-eyebrowed Albatrosses (*D. melanophrys*).
Culminated Albatrosses (*Thalassogeron culminatus*).
Yellow-nosed Albatross (*T. chlororhynchus*).
y Petrel (*Priofinus cinereus*).
y Petrel (*Priocella glacialoides*).
ck Petrel (*Majaqueus æquinoctialis*).
trel ? (*Œstrelata incerta*).
ged Petrels (*Œstrelata mollis*).
bed Storm-Petrels (Wilson's) (*Oceanites*

Storm-Petrels (*Cymodroma melanogaster*).
umed Storm-Petrel (*C. grallaria*).
like Prions (*Prion desolatus*).

ycraft gave a brief summary of the results investigations in the Morphology of the uggested a new basis of classification for this group. Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe and the Hon. Walter Rothschild took part in the discussion which followed.

Mr. W. R. Ogilvie Grant sent a description of a new species of Stone-Pheasant collected by Lord Delamere in

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* The Wandering Albatrosses were all *D. exulans*, and, so far as my memory goes, none of them could come under the head of *D. regia*. T.

British East Africa. The species was named after Lady Delamere :—

PTILOPACHYS FLORENTIÆ, sp. n.

Closely allied to *P. fuscus*, but distinguished by having the plumage altogether darker, the black markings, especially on the underparts of the body, being much coarser. The mantle and upper back are devoid of the broad chestnut shaft-streaks characteristic of *P. fuscus*; on the sides of the breast, belly, and flanks the wide chestnut middles to the feathers are much reduced, and the sides of the feathers are strongly barred with black and white. Iris brown; bill and legs dull red. Total length about 10 inches, wing 4·7, tail 3·6, tarsus 1·15.

Hab. Gessema, British East Africa.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 17th of October, 1900, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, *Chairman.*	R. BOWDLER SHARPE, *Editor.*	W. E. DE WINTON, *Sec. & Treas.*

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BULLETIN

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PREFACE.

The Ninth Session of the British Ornithologists' Club has been a very active one. Eight meetings have taken place, the one in January not having been held in consequence of the death of H.M. Queen Victoria. At these eight monthly gatherings there was an average attendance of thirty-two members. Exclusive of the Chairman's Annual Address, ninety communications have been made to the Club, including some valuable papers—notably that of Dr. Sushkin on the genus *Aquila*. Sixty-five new species have been described in the present volume.

By the death of Mr. Philip Crowley, the Club has lost one of its Vice-Chairmen and original members, and the older generation of ornithologists a much valued personal friend. His name will be perpetuated for ever in the roll of British ornithologists by the bequest which he has made to the nation of one of the most complete collections of Birds' Eggs ever got together by a private individual.

(Signed) R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

October 1*st*, 1901.

RULES

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

(*As amended 20th April,* 1898.)

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session, shall cease, *ipso facto,* to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. Members of the British Ornithologists' Union may be introduced as Visitors at the Meetings of the Club, but every Member of the Club who introduces a Member of the B. O. U. as a Visitor (to dinner or to the Meeting afterwards) shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer, *on each occasion.*

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription.* Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*; with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter Bye-laws.

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[Members are requested to keep the Secretary informed of any changes in their addresses.]

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BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXIV.

The seventy-third Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of October, 1900.

Chairman: Howard Saunders.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, A. F. Crossman, F. Curtis, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, A. H. Evans, F. Gayner, F. H. Carruthers Gould, E. Hartert, Col. Paget W. L'Estrange, B. W. Martin, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, H. C. Monro, H. Munt, E. W. Oates, T. Parkin, H. J. Pearson, F. Penrose, M.D., E. Lort Phillips, W. P. Pycraft, R. H. Read, Col. G. Rippon, Hon. N. Charles Rothschild, A. D. Sapsworth, R. Bowdler Sharpe (*Editor*), W. B. Tegetmeier, N. F. Ticehurst, H. M. Wallis, Watkin Watkins, J. I. S. Whitaker, H. F. Witherby, A. F. R. Wollaston.

Visitors: Dr. Sushkin (*Guest of the Club*), B. Blew, C. E. Fagan.

The following Members were recommended by the Committee as officers of the Club for this Session, and were forthwith elected:—

New Member of Committee: Mr. Howard Saunders, in place of Mr. E. W. Oates, who retires by rotation.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Vice-Chairmen { H. J. Pearson.
H. Saunders.

Secretary and Treasurer: W. E. de Winton.

Editor of the 'Bulletin': R. Bowdler Sharpe.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe gave a short account of his visit to the International Congress of Ornithology held in Paris in June last, and exhibited some of his photographs of the gathering.

Dr. Sharpe described the following new species of birds in the collection of the British Museum:—

Tataré vaughani, n. sp.

T. similis *T. mendanæ*, sed minor, subtùs albescens; tectricibus alarum majoribus et remigibus plerisque albis, rectricibus externis quoque albis distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·6 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 3·3, caudæ 2·85, tarsi 1·2.

Hab. Pitcairn Island, Pacific Ocean.

Obs. The typical specimens were brought from Pitcairn Island by Lieut. Vaughan, of H.M.S. 'Duke of Wellington.' It was the only land-bird on the island. Some few of the quills were brown, but as all the specimens agreed in having more or less white quills, the latter may be taken to be a character of the species.

Buarremon simonsi, n. sp.

♂. *B.* similis *B. seebohmi* et speculo albo alari nullo, sed pileo pallidiore castaneo, et frontis basi minimè nigrâ sed pileo concolore distinguendus. Long. tot. 6·6 poll., culm. 0·65, alæ 3·05, caudæ 2·9, tarsi 1·1.

Hab. Loja, Ecuador (*P. O. Simons*).

Buarremon pallidiceps, n. sp.

♂. *B.* ut videtur, affinis *B. albicipiti*, Tacz., sed maculâ cervicali nigrâ nullâ et gastræo albido distinguendus. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 2·9, caudæ 2·8, tarsi 1·05.

Hab. Oña, Ecuador (*P. O. Simons*).

Myrmotherula guayabambæ, n. sp.

M. similis *M. fulviventri*, Lawr., sed suprà grisescens, alis caudaque grisescenti-fuscis, nec rufescenti-brunneis, et præcipuè tectricibus alarum nigricantibus, albo nec rufo maculatis facilè distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·3 poll., culm. 0·65, alæ 2·1, caudæ 1·95, tarsi 0·65.

Hab. Guayabamba, Peru, 4000 feet, Aug. 26, 1894 (*O. T. Baron: Salvin-Godman coll.*).

Dr. Sushkin exhibited some specimens of Jer-Falcons, and other interesting birds, and spoke as follows:—

"I have much pleasure in being able to exhibit to the British Ornithologists' Club this evening some interesting specimens of birds from Russia.

"Firstly, on behalf of Professor Menzbier, of Moscow, I exhibit examples of two species of Jer-Falcon. One of them, *Hierofalco altaicus*, was described by Menzbier in 1892 in his 'Ornithologie du Turkestan.' An adult bird was obtained by Eversmann many years ago in the Altai mountains, and was determined by him as *H. gyrfalco*.

"More recently Professor Menzbier received from Minusinsk a quite young bird of this Jer-Falcon, with the quills still incompletely developed, and he at once detected the differences between it and the Grey Jer-Falcon (*H. gyrfalco*). Since then some more specimens have been received from the Western Altai mountains, and it is this *Hierofalco altaicus* which was procured in Turkestan by the Second Yarkand Mission and figured by Sharpe as *H. gyrfalco* in his report on the birds then collected. The range of the species would therefore appear to be the mountain ranges bordering the plateau of Central Asia on the north and west.

"I exhibit to-night the young bird mentioned above, as well as a beautiful adult female. It is evident that this bird is more nearly allied to the *H. saker* group of Jer-Falcons than to the northern Jer-Falcons, as more than half of the tarsus is bare, and the markings on the belly in the adult bird are not transverse, but tear-shaped.

"A second species of Jer-Falcon is described by Professor Menzbier as

"Hierofalco lorenzi, n. sp.

"*H.* statura magna, tarsis haud plus quam dimidio plumatis: *H. milvipedi* propinquus, sed subtùs magis conspicuè notatus, notæo multo obscuriore, cyanescente adumbrato, coloreque lateritio-rufo in partibus pennarum expositis oppresso: rectricibus in specimine adulto uropygioque grisescenti- vel cyanescenti-cinereo nec lateritio-rufo fasciatis: pileo obscuro, marginibus plumarum plus minusve lætè rufis.

"*Hab.* æstiva incerta; autumno hiemeque in provinciis 'Tomsk' et 'Yeniseisk' in Siberia centrali observatus.

"This Jer-Falcon is quite new to science and has been named by Prof. Menzbier in honour of Mr. Th. Lorenz, of Moscow, a very able and active collector. Three specimens have been obtained—a very old male, an adult female, and a young bird. Two of them were procured in the Government of Yeniseisk and the third in the neighbouring Government of Tomsk. Unfortunately all were procured in winter, so that we are as yet unaware of the breeding-range of this Jer-Falcon.

"This species is a very remarkable one, as it combines the feature of the tarsal feathering of the *H. saker* group with the barred plumage and bluish tints of the northern Jer-Falcons. Its nearest relative is certainly *H. milvipes*, but the replacement of so much of the peculiar brick-red colour by a strong *bluish* tint distinguishes *H. lorenzi* at once.

"Professor Menzbier sends the description of a new species of Sea-Eagle which he proposes to call

"THALASSAËTUS MACRURUS, n. sp.

"*Th. pelagico* et *Th. branickii* haud dissimilis, sed caudâ multo longiore; culmine maxillæ arcum circuli formante; remigibus primariis quinque pogonio interno valdè emarginatis, ut in *Th. branickii*; distantia autem inter apices secundariarum et primariarum duplo longiore.

"*Hab.* ad urbem Yakutsk, in Siberia orientali.

"This is a Sea-Eagle, belonging to the same group as *Th. pelagicus* and *Th. branickii*, with 14 tail-feathers. It can be distinguished from both its congeners by its very much longer tail (14·4 inches), which is graduated very regularly. The culmen of the bill forms an arc of a regular circle, as in *Th. branickii*, but the centre of this arc is situated further backwards, behind the vertical level of the nostril. Five primary-quills are sharply emarginated on their inner vane, as in *Th. branickii*, but the distance between the tips of the innermost secondaries and the primary-quills is very large (5·5 inches), whereas in *Th. branickii* it is only 2·5 inches. The tarsus is short, scarcely more than half of its front surface being feathered.

"Dimensions of the male: wing 24·4 inches, tail 14·4, culmen 3·7, tarsus 3·5.

"One specimen only was obtained—in the environments of Yakutsk, in Eastern Siberia. Judging from its coloration, the bird is in its second plumage."

Dr. Sushkin also exhibited a pair of Shrikes and a pair of Merlins procured by himself in the western part of the Kirghiz Steppes, to the north of the Caspian and Aral Seas. The Shrike was described by him in 1895 as *Lanius eleagni*, of which the male presented a combination of the characters of the common *Lanius collurio* and the Red-tailed Shrikes (*Otomela*).

The Merlin was described as new under the name of

LITHOFALCO ÆSALON PALLIDUS, n. subsp.

He made the following remarks on the species:—

"I exhibit an adult male and female of this Merlin. Both sexes show a strikingly pale coloration, and the dark markings on the under surface are much reduced in size when compared with *L. æsalon* of Europe. In the male, too, the crown of the head is suffused with rufous, this effect being produced by the indistinct rufescent margins to the feathers, and most of the feathers of the mantle are also tipped with rufous. In the female the general colour of the upper surface is very pale and at the same time very rufous, and all the feathers of the mantle are cross-barred. The young bird is similar to the adult female, but the bluish tint is wanting. The wing-lining in these birds is clear, with brownish-rufous cross-markings, united by the shaft-stripes. In the European birds the feathers are brown with whitish spots. In the adult bird of this pale Merlin the axillaries are whitish with irregular shaft-stripes, whereas in the adult males of *L. æsalon* the axillaries remain barred.

"This form of the Merlin breeds in the before-mentioned part of the Kirghiz Steppes, in the valleys of the Ural River, its tributaries, and along the Mugodjar range. On passage and in winter it appears in Turkestan, and visits the Sirsa district of N.W. India. In certain areas it shares its winter-quarters with the common dark form of Merlin."

Dr. Sushkin then delivered the following important address on certain species of *Aquila* :—

"I now proceed to give some results of my work on the Eagles. This work is not yet completely finished, but some of my results seem to be rather interesting.

"*Aquila verreauxi* is a somewhat peculiar type, connecting the Golden Eagles with the rest of the group. It combines many plastic characters of the former with the variations of age peculiar to the latter. At the same time it is nearly related to *Uroaëtus*, as was pointed out by Sharpe, and I must add that the comparison of the skeletons proves the same.

"*A. chrysaëtus* must be divided into some well-marked sub-species. In the Palæarctic Region one sub-species inhabits the mountains of Europe, the Caucasus, and Northern Africa; another is an inhabitant of the plains of the Palæarctic area; a third belongs to Central Asia and to the mountains bordering it. America seems to have probably two sub-species, a northern and a southern one.

"Of *Aquila heliaca*, Savigny, I would point out that individual variations of this bird lead to a certain extent in the direction of *A. adalberti*. As to the latter, I have found that, at least in most instances, it presents in the first plumages the same striped appearance of the crop as does *A. heliaca*, but the dark stripes are much less developed and do not penetrate so far backwards as in *A. heliaca*. As a straggler, *A. heliaca* appears in Italy and in France. I have seen one specimen from Calabria and another from Boulogne-sur-Mer.

"The most complicated group is that of *A. rapax*. In Africa it is represented by two forms. One of them, the true *A. rapax* of Temminck, is a bright tawny bird in the fresh first plumage. The old bird has a dark ferruginous head, hind-neck, rump, and belly, and the mantle and crop are blackish brown with bright ferruginous wedge-shaped marks. As to *A. albicans* of Rüppell, the supposed *old*, whitish, birds are really only bleached individuals, and the fully adult bird is dark blackish brown all over. Tracing the variations of age from this stage backwards, by means of careful examination of moulting specimens, and by comparison of others shot off the nests, I have come to the conclusion that the first plumage of this bird is, in typical specimens, clear earthy brown, not unlike the young of *A. nipalensis*, but without the ochraceous wing-bars and tail-coverts of the young *A. nipalensis*. Intermediate stages are not unlike the old *A. rapax*, but the rufous colour of the latter is replaced by more or less dirty clay-colour, and the wedges on the dark parts are more irregular. Both forms are quite the same as regards their proportions, and intermediate specimens occur also; hence *A. albicans* can be considered only as a sub-species of *A. rapax*. The latter is distributed over the whole of Africa, only Lower Egypt excepted. *A. albicans*, though more common in Abyssinia, is found in north-western Africa too, but never met with in South and West Africa.

"In India this group is represented by *A. vindhiana*. This form is very variable, not only in its coloration, but also in the variations due to age, and some birds assume at once a plumage strikingly similar to the third plumage of others. About five per cent. of the specimens of this Eagle cannot be with certainty distinguished from *A. albicans*, and hence I can recognize *A. vindhiana* only as a sub-species of the *A. rapax* group. The proportions are the same as in the African Tawny Eagles, and some specimens of *A. vindhiana*, quite typical as regards their coloration, are as large as the largest *A. rapax*.

"In the variations of *A. vindhiana* there is one always to be recognized, in which the dark brown coloration is replaced by mouse-grey. The amount of the variations dependent on age is smaller in this form than in the typical one, because the mantle and the crop are always grey from the first plumage. In the old bird the colour of the head is clearer than the rest of the body: this never occurs in the typical *A. vindhiana*. I propose for this form the name

"AQUILA MURINA, subsp. n.*

"Owing to the scarcity of specimens shot off the nests, we cannot compare the distribution of the true *A. vindhiana* and *A. murina,* but the range of the latter seems to be somewhat restricted. Hence the group of *A. rapax* and its allies is composed of four sub-species.

"As concerns the typical *A. rapax,* it is a very remarkable fact that it gets striped in its *adult* plumage, whereas many other Eagles—*A. heliaca, A. clanga, A. nævia, A. hastata*—are striped in their *first* plumage. This fact suggests that *A. rapax* is a very ancient form. *A. vindhiana* and *A. albicans,* which assume the longitudinal stripes in the intermediate stages and lose them again in the old plumage, must be considered as more progressive forms and of more recent origin.

"About the Steppe-Eagles (*A. nipalensis*) I will only point out at present the circumstance, very often overlooked, that these Eagles appear sometimes to winter in Africa. I have seen about three specimens from the Upper Nile and adjacent countries, and one from Otjimbinque, in Damara Land.

"*Aquila hastata* is very nearly related to *A. nævia,* but I fancy that it can always be surely distinguished, unless, perhaps, in very much bleached plumage. The rufous nuchal patch is never seen in *A. hastata,* and whitish points are always present on the lesser wing-coverts; the pale tips of the primaries are very conspicuous in the old birds from the 7th, whereas in *A. nævia* seldom from the 8th; in the young *A. hastata* the 7th primary is coloured as the 8th; in the young *A. nævia* it is coloured like the 6th. In size and proportions both species are much the same, but in *A. hastata* the 7th primary is generally shorter than in *A. nævia*; the distance between the tip of the bill and the corner of the mouth in *A. nævia* never exceeds 2·15 inches, while in *A. hastata* it never falls short of 2·2 inches.

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* Type from Darjiling in Mus. Brit.

"Finally, I wish to add a few words about *A. fulvescens.* Up to the present I have examined twelve specimens of this scarce bird, and have received from Russia a very detailed description of one more. In this series, I believe, all plumages of *A. fulvescens* have been represented, and I come to the conclusion that *A. fulvescens* is a very well characterized species. Its plastic characters are the same as in *A. clanga,* but the changes due to age are quite different. The bird gets darker with advanced age, and never assumes longitudinal stripes or patches on the mantle, so characteristic of young and immature *A. clanga.* The tone of the coloration and its changes recall those of *A. rapax* to a certain extent, and thus we are lead to consider *A. fulvescens* as the ancestral form of *A. clanga* with the anatomical characters of the latter, but still exhibiting many features of its coloration in common with *A. rapax.* As concerns the synonymy of *A. fulvescens,* I would state that the Eagle described in the 'Journal für Ornithologie' for 1853 as *A. nævia* var. *pallida* is, judging from the figure, the young of *A. fulvescens*; but *A. boeckii* is only an aberration of *A. clanga,* and I can find every possible step connecting it with true *A. clanga.* But no intermediate forms exist between so-called *A. boeckii* and *A. fulvescens.* I must add that the so-called *A. rapax* from the Volga, preserved in the Museum at Dresden, is really *A. fulvescens* *.

"In summer *A. fulvescens* has been observed in Russia only. Specimens were obtained in the Government of Tver. The species is supposed to have been seen near Orenburg, and it has been procured near Tomsk, and further eastwards near Irkutsk and on the northern slopes of the Altai. On migration this Eagle has been procured in Turkestan, on the Lower Volga, in Eastern Germany, and, quite recently, in Albania. Its winter-quarters are known only from India.

"In conclusion, I beg to draw the attention of all students of the genus *Aquila* to a very important rule, enunciated by the late Dr. Severtzoff, for the determination of the first plumage of the Eagles. The fact is that Eagles *moult very slowly*, and the first plumage, in its entirety, is the only absolutely complete and uniform garb assumed during the bird's life. All subsequent plumages are of a mixed character, consisting, owing to the gradual moults, of worn feathers and new ones assumed by degrees.

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* [*Cf.* Hartert in new edition of 'Naumannia.'—R. B. S.]

"Further notes on the genus *Aquila* will shortly be published by me in the 'Bulletin' of the Moscow Ornithologists' Society."

The Chairman thanked Dr. Sushkin, in the name of the Club, for his lucid and valuable memoir, and Mr. de Winton proposed that his paper should be published in full in the 'Bulletin.' This resolution was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Ernst Hartert gave a report of the proceedings of the 50th Anniversary Meeting of the German Ornithological Society in Leipzig, held from October 5th to October 9th. A full account will appear in the 'Ibis.'

The Hon. Walter Rothschild sent for exhibition a clutch of three eggs of *Bubo ascalaphus*, collected by the Hon. N. Charles Rothschild and Mr. Francis Gayner on the Dahshur Pyramid on the 12th of April, 1900—also an interesting melanistic specimen of *Podicipes fluviatilis* from his collection.

Mr. Eugene W. Oates read the following note:—

"Colonel G. Rippon, knowing the interest that I take in the Timeliine Birds, has kindly placed in my hands for description a new species of *Trochalopterum*. This bird is, I think, the most interesting of the new species he has brought back from the Shan States, and I feel that I cannot therefore do better than dedicate it to him.

"TROCHALOPTERUM RIPPONI, n. sp.

"Allied to *T. phœniceum* from the Himalayas, but differing from that species in many important points. The crimson of the head is much brighter and extends to the whole of the sides of the head, the supercilium, forehead, chin, and cheeks, even tinging the throat. The latter, together with the whole lower plumage, is greyish yellow, not fulvous olive-brown. The whole crown is dark plumbeous and the remainder of the upper plumage, with the wing-coverts, is olive-grey. The tail-feathers are not tipped with orange, but more narrowly with ochraceous, the lower aspect of the outer feathers alone being orange. Wing 3·4 inches; tail 4; tarsus 1·3."

Colonel G. Rippon described the following new species of birds obtained by him in the Shan States:—

Ægithaliscus pulchellus, n. sp.

Æ. similis *Æ. manipurensi*, sed pileo ochracescenti-brunneo minimè castaneo facilè distinguendus. Long. tot. 3·9 poll., culm. 0·3, alæ 1·8, caudæ 1·7, tarsi 0·6.

Hab. Nanoi, Loi Mai, S. Shan States, 5300 feet.

Alcippe fratercula, n. sp.

A. similis *A. nipalensi*, sed major et ubique saturatior, pileo schistaceo nec vinascenti-cineraceo, fasciis pilei lateralis ad latera colli productis, nigris; corpore subtùs fere omninò cervino, hypochondriis et subcaudalibus saturatè cervinis distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·8 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 2·65, caudæ 2·6, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Hills of S. Shan States, above 4000 feet.

Schœniparus intermedius, n. sp.

S. similis *S. mandellii* et colli lateribus eodem modo nigro striolatis, sed facie laterali brunnescentiore, et gutture et gastræo mediano albicantibus nec cervinis distinguendus. Long. tot. 5·8 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·35, caudæ 2·5, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Nanoi, Loi Mai, 5300 feet, S. Shan States.

Stachyridopsis sulphurea, n. sp.

S. similis *S. ruficipiti*, sed pileo saturatè castaneo, nuchâ dorso concolore, loris, facie laterali et corpore subtùs pallidè sulfureis, alis extus brunneis distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·6 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·2, caudæ 2·05, tarsi 0·7.

Hab. Namehet, S. Shan States.

Drymocataphus cinnamomeus, n. sp.

Similis *D. ignoto*, Hume, sed gutture fusco distinctè maculato: notæo reliquo cinnamomeo, abdomine albo distinguendus. Long. tot. 5·0 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 2·15, caudæ 1·75, tarsi 1·8.

Hab. Loi Mai, S. Shan States, 6000 feet.

Yuhina ampelina, n. sp.

Similis *Y. diademati*, sed saturatior: facie laterali cinerascenti-brunneâ, regione paroticâ pallidè brunneo lineatâ: gastræo cinerascente, nec vinaceo-brunneo, abdomine et subcaudalibus albis distinguenda. Long. tot. c. 6·5 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 3·05, caudæ 2·9, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Warar Bum, 6000 feet, 30 miles east of Bhamo.

Mr. Sapsworth exhibited some specimens of Whitehead's Nuthatch (*Sitta whiteheadi*) which he had procured in Corsica in the autumn of the present year. He pointed out also that the Dipper of Corsica identified as *Cinclus albicollis* by the late Mr. John Whitehead (Ibis, 1885, p. 37) was really a small form of *Cinclus melanogaster*, as was proved by a specimen brought home by him and compared with Norwegian and other examples from Scandinavia, in the British Museum. That the Corsican bird was decidedly smaller was shown by the following measurements:—Total length 6·4 inches, culmen 0·9, wing 3·3, tail 1·85, tarsus 1·15. In a Norwegian specimen the wing was 3·7, but there was considerable variation in size, and some of the specimens from Central Europe were as small as the Corsican bird.

Mr. W. P. Pycraft made some remarks upon a specimen in spirits of *Zeledonia* lately acquired by the British Museum. Unfortunately it had been partly dissected, but the syrinx and wing-muscles were intact and proved conclusively that *Zeledonia* was a truly Oscinine form, though its exact position had yet to be determined. It was proposed to make a careful study of the pterylosis in the hope that this might give some further clue as to the position of the genus.

Mr. Pycraft further made some remarks upon the palates of certain Caprimulgine forms. He drew attention to the fact that, by modification of the characteristic joint between the pterygoid and palatine bones, the pterygoid had assumed a form bearing a superficial resemblance to that of the Struthious birds. He showed conclusively, however, that there was really nothing in common between these two types of pterygoid bones, a description of which would appear later.

Mr. H. F. WITHERBY exhibited specimens of the following birds, obtained by him on the White Nile between Khartoum and 150 miles to the south, viz.:—*Scops leucotis*, *Spiloptila clamans*, *Ægithalus punctifrons*, and the young of *Pyrrhulauda leucotis*.

Mr. WITHERBY also described the following apparently new species of *Cisticola*:—

CISTICOLA ARIDULA, n. sp.

Adult male. Of the same group as *Cisticola terrestris* and closely allied to *C. hindei*, but smaller and very much lighter in colour, the prevailing colour being a pale fawn-buff, with narrow longitudinal streaks on the upper surface. General colour of the upper parts light buff, the feathers being very narrowly mesially streaked with dark brown. Throat silvery white and the rest of the underparts, including the under wing-coverts and under tail-coverts, white, washed with buff; quills dusky, edged on the outer webs with light buff; underside of the quills very light brown, the light pattern of the inner webs ashy isabelline; tail-feathers very dark brown tipped with white, but with no sub-terminal bar as in *C. cisticola*. Iris greenish straw-colour; bill flesh-colour; legs and feet yellowish flesh-colour. Total length about 3·75 inches, culmen 0·44, wing 1·75, tail 1·4, tarsus 0·68.

Hab. About 60 miles south of Khartoum, on the White Nile.

Mr. MEADE-WALDO gave some interesting experiences of the nesting-boxes put up on his estate in Kent. He found that practically they were never used by Sparrows, if placed low down and away from houses. The S.W. was found to be the worst exposure for the boxes, the best height for which was from four to six feet from the ground. A heavy lid that will open enables the boxes to be cleaned and the old nests taken out every year, a few holes being pierced in the bottom of the box for draining purposes. The heavy solid boxes must be fixed firmly.

Four species of Tits used these boxes, but 80 per cent. of the number were occupied by Blue and Great Tits, the latter predominating. Occasionally, however, the case was reversed, and Blue Tits were the predominating occupants. Wrynecks used them often, preferring boxes in open situations, and a pair of these birds would often devastate a number of Tits' nests, without using the boxes themselves. Nuthatches frequently availed themselves of the boxes, plastering the holes round with mud as well as the inside of the lid after the box had been fastened down. This year (1900) they took to the boxes so freely that out of 25 within a limited area no less than 17 were occupied by them.

Large boxes fixed in trees at from 20 to 30 feet from the ground, of the size of 20 inches square, with a double-span roof, and a projecting eave of about 4 inches over the hole, were occupied by Barn- and Tawny Owls, Jackdaws, Stock-Doves, and Kestrels, while Squirrels and Stoats occasionally took them. Kestrels were the prevailing birds this year, no fewer than five pairs nesting round one field, in which about 1000 young Pheasants were reared, and the Hawks never touched any of the latter, though they passed over the field repeatedly in all directions. Mr. Meade-Waldo would not imply that Kestrels did not occasionally take young Pheasants from the coops, but as voles swarmed throughout the nesting-season in some of the young plantations, the Kestrels doubtless found abundance of their favourite food. All these Kestrels disappeared about the beginning of August, after which time scarcely a bird was to be seen. Many other species of birds occupied boxes occasionally; though there were practically unlimited nesting-sites in the neighbourhood, but few boxes were left untenanted.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON proposed that the meeting in January should be devoted to the exhibition of lantern-slides illustrating the work done by members of the Club during the past season. This proposal was unanimously adopted.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited a nestling Pheasant, only a few days old. The specimen had been sent to him by Mr. Alfred Dunnage, of Dedham, Colchester; it had formed one of a brood of nine or ten birds which were hatched out in a hedge-row, far from any covert. (See 'Field' of Oct. 20, 1900.) The late date of hatching was of peculiar interest.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 21st of November, 1900, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

HOWARD SAUNDERS, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, W. E. DE WINTON,
Chairman. *Editor.* *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXV.

The seventy-fourth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of November, 1900.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, A. Cowie, Major A. H. Cowie, R.E., A. F. Crossman, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, E. N. F. Fenwick, C. Garnett, F. Gayner, J. Gerrard, F. H. Carruthers Gould, W. R. Ogilvie Grant, E. Hartert, J. E. Harting, Col. Paget L'Estrange, G. E. Lodge, B. W. Martin, R. Meinertzhagen, H. Munt, E. Neale, R. Nesham, H. J. Pearson, F. Penrose, M.D., A. E. Price, Hon. L. Walter Rothschild, M.P., A. D. Sapsworth, Howard Saunders, F. Sharman, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), E. Cavendish Taylor, W. B. Tegetmeier, A. Thorburn, N. F. Ticehurst, H. M. Wallis, C. Whymper, Capt. L. A. Williams, H. F. Witherby, A. F. R. Wollaston, B. Buttress.

Visitors: E. S. Archbould, H. Ashby, C. E. Fagan, F. Carruthers Gould, R. H. Longbotham, Capt. A. T. H. Newnham, T. S. Tait, F. Turner, Dr. Sushkin.

Mr. W. E. de Winton, Treasurer of the Club, made a brief statement of the accounts for the past year, which showed a satisfactory balance.

[*November 28th*, 1900.]

The CHAIRMAN then read his Annual Address :—

BROTHER MEMBERS OF THE B. O. C.,—

On commencing the Ninth Session of our Club I venture to remind you that we have now issued ten volumes of our 'Bulletin,' and have recorded in them a goodly series of ornithological observations and of new discoveries in Bird-life.

But I may also remind you that our Club is, as it were, a Committee of the British Ornithologists' Union, embracing, as it does, nearly all the most prominent and most active Members of the larger Society. The British Ornithologists' Union has just brought to a close the seventh series of its Journal 'The Ibis,' making a total of 42 volumes devoted to the advancement of our favourite branch of Natural Science. This is therefore, I think, a good opportunity for considering shortly some of the principal results which have been accomplished by the B. O. U. during the 42 years that 'The Ibis' has flourished.

One of the principal objects of those who originally conceived the idea of a British Ornithologists' Union and founded 'The Ibis' was that we should use it as a means of publication for the results of our own travels and expeditions into various parts of the world in search of birds and of the incidents of bird-life. Thus the very first volume of our first series contained articles by Salvin on his experiences in Guatemala, by Canon Tristram on the birds of Palestine and also of Algeria, by Prof. Newton on the birds of St. Croix, West Indies, and by Evans and Sturge on the birds of Spitsbergen. The original idea of our Journal was quickly expanded; we received accounts of the collections made by our friends and correspondents in various parts of the world, and these were worked out mainly by the experts at home. But all through the long series of 'The Ibis' the geographical interest remains a prominent feature. One may consult any volume of 'The Ibis' and the student will find that most of the principal articles are devoted to the ornithology of some special country or district, and that the field-notes form a special feature. Research such as this we may boast to have carried on in nearly every district of the known world. In the words of the Roman poet we may fairly exclaim:

> Quæ regio in terris nostri non plena laboris?

One can look through the pages of 'The Ibis' and find that the Arctic and Antarctic regions, the tropics, the subtropics, and the temperate climes of both Hemispheres have been alike the subject of our investigations. Wherever bird-life exists, the British ornithologist seeks to penetrate. He is always on the look-out for untrodden fields to explore.

After 42 years of this sort of work, in which it must be recollected that our ornithological brethren in Germany, America, and other countries have been by no means slow to rival us, it would perhaps be supposed that there are no more "worlds left to conquer," and that work on the geographical branch of ornithology will soon come to an end. But such, I believe, is by no means the case, excepting, perhaps, in North America, where our friends across the Atlantic have nearly exhausted this particular branch of the subject. I will endeavour to set before you what I consider to be some of the principal *hiatus valde deflendi* in geographical ornithology, and to express a hope that some of our young and energetic associates may take steps to fill up the gaps in our knowledge.

I. The Palæarctic Region.

This, as the seat of our original civilization, is naturally the best known and most completely explored of the six great Regions. Of its western division the 'Ornis Balcanica' of Reiser has filled up what was until recently one of the least-known portions. Morocco, Algeria, and Tunis have also received a great deal of attention. Egyptian birds are now well known, but a new edition of Capt. Shelley's volume on the birds of that country is much required. The northern portion of the eastern division of the Palæarctic Region is in the hands of the Russian naturalists, and we must lament that the important works commenced by Dr. Pleske ('Ornithographia Rossica') and Professor Menzbier ('Ornithologie du Turkestan') have remained so long unfinished. The time has also now arrived when a new handbook of the birds of Europe should be undertaken. We are glad to hear that Mr. Dresser is busily engaged in preparing a 'Manual of Palæarctic Birds.'

In the far east of the Palæarctic Region British ornithologists have done their full share of work. No one can forget the name of Swinhoe when treating of this subject, and we have several active contributors to 'The Ibis' (Rickett, Styan, La Touche) always busy on the birds of the Chinese Empire. There is no doubt, however, that great discoveries have still to be made when the mountainous ranges of the interior of China can be safely explored. An enterprising ornithologist who would undertake to go out to Kamtchatka or the Lower Amoor in the early spring and watch the migrants coming north on that side of the globe would find a very interesting field of research. This was a pet scheme of our late friend Seebohm, and will, we may hope, be taken up some day by one of his followers.

Another vacant area on the boundaries of the Palæarctic Region, which is easy of access and might be safely traversed in the early spring, lies between the Persian Gulf and Palestine. The traveller should proceed to Bussorah by sea, and thence journey up the valley of the Euphrates to Aleppo and Antioch. Not many novelties, perhaps, would be obtained on this route, but, so far as I know, the district has hardly ever been visited by a naturalist, and many interesting species of birds would doubtless be encountered.

II. The Indian Region.

The extent and variety of the Ornis of the Oriental Region are so great that it is impossible to do more than just allude to it on the present occasion. British ornithologists have again done their full share towards the elucidation of its zoological features, and are still doing good work. The excellent 'Fauna of British India,' edited by Blanford, with the volumes on 'Aves' by Mr. Oates and himself, sums up what has been done within the limits of our Indian Empire. Oustalet's new work on the Ornis of the Cochin-Chinese provinces, of which the first part is already issued, will supply much required information on the further side of the continental portion of this Region. All the great islands of the Oriental Archipelago have now been more or less investigated, and a splendid volume on the ornithology of the debatable land of Celebes has been lately provided for us by the labours of Dr. A. B. Meyer and Mr. Wiglesworth. At the same time it must not be supposed that even here there is not much more work to be done by the patient collector. It is difficult to point to the exact locality in the Oriental Region to which the traveller should be specially directed. The sad fate of John Whitehead prevents me from suggesting Hainan with its unhealthy climate, and the Philippines are at present closed to ornithological investigation; but there are many crumbs to be picked up by the student of zoology in the Malayan Archipelago, as Mr. Rothschild's collectors have recently shown us.

III. THE ETHIOPIAN REGION.

It is in the Ethiopian Region, perhaps, that Geographical Ornithology has made the greatest progress of late years. In nearly every district, both in the south and along a broad band running up Eastern Africa to Somaliland, collections have been made and described, and vast additions have thus accrued to our knowledge of the African Ornis. Among those who have contributed to this result I may mention the names of Alexander, Andersson, Forbes, Ogilvie Grant, Jackson, Johnston, Lord Lovat, Lort Phillips, Bowdler Sharpe, Shelley, and Weld-Blundell as efficient workers in the field or in the cabinet. But there have been many other celebrated collectors, and our German colleagues have been especially active. These extensive acquisitions to our knowledge of the Ethiopian Ornis are now being worked up in the two summaries prepared, one in this country by Capt. Shelley and the other at Berlin by Prof. Reichenow.

Capt. Shelley in his first volume enumerates more than 2500 members of the African ornis, but he includes in his work the species of Madagascar and the Mascarene Islands, which do not strictly belong to the Ethiopian Region, in my opinion. There must be, however, still considerable additions to be made to the list. It is difficult to specify the most likely localities for future researches, but the ranges north of Mount Elgon (now easily accessible from Mombasa) and the highlands of our new Protectorate of Nigeria deserve special attention. Moreover, since the days of Rüppell no naturalist has visited the high plateau of the interior of Abyssinia, and there is certainly much to be done in these regions of Africa.

IV. The Nearctic Region.

Turning now our attention for a few moments to the New World, we may, as already hinted, safely leave the Ornis of the Nearctic Region in the care of our good friends in the United States. In the last number of 'The Auk' we are informed that the first volume of Mr. Ridgway's long-promised work on 'The Birds of North and Middle America' will shortly be issued. It will probably run to seven volumes, and will deal with about 3000 species and subspecies. This is welcome intelligence, as we know that the work will be thorough and exhaustive, even though we may not always agree with the nomenclature employed in its pages.

V. The Neotropical Region.

In the 'Nomenclator Avium Neotropicalium,' published twenty-eight years ago, upwards of 2500 species were assigned to the Neotropical Avifauna, and at least 500 more, I should estimate, have been added to it since that period. The Neotropical Region is without doubt the richest in bird-life of the six great zoological areas of the globe, and is scarcely surpassed in extraordinary forms by the Papuan Subregion of Australasia. In the division of the Neotropical Region north of Panama we have in the "Birds" of the 'Biologia Centrali-Americana' an excellent account of our knowledge of this Avifauna as far as the *Accipitres*.

All over South America much good work has been done of late years in nearly every part of its wide extent, and a new feature in the scientific history of the Continent is the publication in Brazil of important essays on the Avifaunas of these countries by Dr. von Ihering and Dr. Goeldi. In the highlands of Peru and Bolivia, however, although so much has been already done, fresh novelties are sure to be met with in the unvisited valleys; and the eastern frontiers of Colombia and Ecuador still deserve further attention. There is, in fact, much hard work to be accomplished by patient research carried out in nearly every part of this Region. To those who may be tempted to take short trips to South America I should recommend a visit to the Sierra de Cordova (easily accessible by rail from Buenos Ayres) and to the adjoining ranges to the north. Or a run over the ocean to Pará; but instead of going up the Amazons, it would be better for the ornithologist to search the hill-country south of Pará, and hunt up *Pipra opalizans* and other little-known species confined to that district, which has never been properly explored. Field-notes on South-American birds are still greatly to be desired.

We greatly appreciate, however, the recent additions to the Avifauna of Ecuador made by Mr. Goodfellow and Dr. Festa, the latter having formed the subject of a memoir by our old friend Count Salvadori. The British Museum has also received important collections from Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia from Mr. P. O. Simons, and of these we are promised descriptions shortly by Dr. Bowdler Sharpe.

VI. The Australian Region.

The wealth of bird-life in the Australian Region is apparently inexhaustible. Of the Avifauna of Australia itself we have indeed a fair knowledge—thanks mainly to the energy of John Gould and his disciples. But in the other Subregions there is still a large residue of bird-work to be accomplished. It is here that the ambitious ornithologist who does not fear to risk his health should betake himself.

Gould published his 'Handbook of Australian Birds' in 1865, and it is now quite time that we should have a new work on the same subject, correcting errors and introducing the species added to the list during the past thirty-five years. We have active workers in Sydney, Melbourne, and elsewhere in Australia, and now that the Colonies are united under an Imperial Governor there will be a fine opportunity to start such an enterprise. We should invite our Australian friends and correspondents to lay their heads together and see how this great work can best be done.

In the Papuan Subregion there is a particularly well-finished piece of work for us to build upon, viz. Count Salvadori's 'Ornitologia della Papuasia,' of which the last Supplement was issued in 1891. Much has been done since that date, but, as I have just said, much more remains to be accomplished. *Pteridophora alberti*, in some respects the most wonderful bird in the world, was only discovered in 1894, and who can say that equally or still more remarkable novelties are not to be found in the unexplored interior of New Guinea? Here, indeed, there is a task to be undertaken—difficult, no doubt, but to be accomplished like other difficult tasks, if proper means are employed. New Guinea still remains the country that aspirants for high honours in ornithological science should try to explore.

Finally there remains the Polynesian Division of the Australian Region. Of what was known of the feathered inhabitants of this Subregion in 1891 we have a capital summary by Mr. Wiglesworth in his 'Aves Polynesiæ.' But every island in Polynesia should be visited and its birds observed and catalogued; this has as yet been by no means effected. Even in the New Hebrides, as shown by Capt. Farquhar and Dr. Bowdler Sharpe in the last volume of 'The Ibis,' there are new species to be discovered by a careful search.

The geography of ornithology has always been one of my favourite subjects, and I must ask your pardon for having spoken of it at such length. But if my remarks have the effect of inducing our brethren of the B. O. C. to take up some few of the many points of enquiry that I have set before them, I shall not consider that I have wasted your time.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD and Mr. ERNST HARTERT described and exhibited the following new species of birds:—

CRATEROSCELIS PECTORALIS, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Upperside very deep olive-brown, more rufous on the rump and still more so on the upper tail-coverts. Remiges blackish brown; outer webs with deep brown edges, inner webs with pale rufous-brown edges. Tail very deep rufous brown; chin and throat white, separable from the breast by a broad brown band; sides of body greyish brown, more rufous brown on the flanks. Abdomen whitish in the middle; vent, thighs, and under tail-coverts rusty brown. Iris brown; bill brown, under mandible pale; feet pale brownish. Wing 63-65 mm., tail 43–45, culmen from base 15–16, metatarsus 26–27.

♀ (? and young ♂). Differs from the male in having the pectoral band paler greyish brown and less distinct. Wing 60–66 mm.

We have specimens from Mt. Cameron, 7000 feet, and Mt. Knutsford, 11,000 feet, collected in 1896 by A. G. Anthony; one from Mt. Scratchley, from an unknown collector; and one from the Aroa River, 5000 feet, collected by Emil Weiske. *Type,* Mt. Cameron, 21st August, 1896.

CRATEROSCELIS RUFOBRUNNEA, n. sp.

Upperside deep olive-brown; head and nape darker, almost blackish; ear-coverts paler brown; rump more rufous brown. Remiges blackish brown, with rufous-brown outer edges and pale brown inner lining; rectrices dark rufous brown. Underside deep rusty brown, paler on throat and middle of abdomen. Under wing-coverts and thighs brown. Bill blackish; feet (in skin) pale brown. Wing only 58 mm., bill from base 13, metatarsus 22, tail about 33.

One specimen (sex unknown) from Mt. Maori, a little west of Humboldt Bay in Dutch New Guinea (Dumas coll.).

MICRŒCA VIRIDIFLAVA, n. sp.

Upperside yellowish olive-green. Remiges dark brown, with yellowish-green outer edges; rectrices olive-green, greenish-yellow externally; loral patch and feathers on eyelids yellow; in front of the eye some dark feathers. Under surface yellow, the edges of the feathers brighter, so as to produce a very faintly streaked appearance; ear-coverts olive-yellowish; sides of breast washed with greenish. Under wing-coverts pale yellow; quills lined inside with buff. Iris brown; bill blackish; feet light (Anthony writes "yellow," but they are more likely of a flesh-colour). Wing 73–75 mm., tail 45–47, culmen from forehead about 12, metatarsus 16–17.

We have one specimen (the type) marked ♀, shot at 6500 feet on Mt. Cameron by Anthony on August 1, 1896; two from the Eafa and Kotoi districts, from unknown collectors, and some collected by Emil Weiske on the Aroa River.

PŒCILODRYAS CYANUS SALVADORII, n. subsp.

Specimens from Mts. Cameron and Scratchley, from the Kotoi and Eafa districts in British New Guinea, and from the Ambernoh River in Dutch New Guinea, are so considerably larger than typical *P. cyanus* from Arfak, that they must be separated. The wing in Arfak specimens is from 80 to 85 mm. long, that of the new subspecies (type, Mt. Cameron, 7000 feet) 86 to 96 mm.; the smaller individuals evidently being females or immature. Tail of *P. c. salvadorii* 66–70 mm., culmen about 19, metatarsus 25.

This form is named in honour of our friend Count Tommaso Salvadori, who (Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova, xxxvi. p. 27) already mentioned the much larger size of the specimens from Moroka in the Owen Stanley range.

Messrs. WALTER ROTHSCHILD and ERNST HARTERT also exhibited skins of *Amalocichla sclateriana* and *Amalocichla brevicauda* from the mountains of British New Guinea, collected by Anthony and Weiske. The latter species had been described by Mr. De Vis as *Drymœdus brevicauda,* but it was clearly congeneric with *Amalocichla sclateriana.*

Mr. Ernst Hartert exhibited a Baird's Sandpiper, new to the British list of birds :—

Heteropygia bairdi.

The example was shot at Rye Harbour, Sussex, on October 11th, 1900, and was sent to Mr. Hartert by its discoverer and owner, Mr. Michael John Nicoll, for identification. Mr. Nicoll wrote that before he shot the bird he was convinced that it was a species unknown to him. The flight was more like that of the Common Sandpiper for the first few yards, then it rose straight in the air for a considerable height, and then dropped suddenly towards the ground. It did this every time it was put up. Its cry was a shrill twitter, different from that of any British species. The bill and legs were jet-black. It is a young female.

The bird was seen in the flesh by Mr. Ruskin Butterfield.

Mr. Hartert also informed the members of the Club that the British form of the Willow-Tit, *Parus salicarius,* was not very rare on the south coast of England. Mr. Hartert had seen a specimen in the collection of Mr. Ticehurst from St. Leonard's, and had recently received fresh skins from Mr. Ruskin Butterfield, who had met with it not far from Hastings.

There can be no doubt that those ornithologists who accept trinomials should use one for this bird. If all the dull-headed forms of the grey Tits were united as subspecies, the Continental Willow-Tit would have to be called *Parus montanus salicarius.* The British form being slightly smaller and slightly more richly coloured than the Continental one, had been separated by Mr. Hellmayr as *Parus montanus kleinschmidti.*

Messrs. Kleinschmidt and Hartert had long ago been aware of the slight differences between Continental and

British Willow-Tits, but in their opinion it had so far been much more important that they should be understood to be specifically different from the ordinary Marsh-Tit with a glossy crown. They could, however, corroborate the differences stated to exist by Hellmayr, though Mr. Hartert would be quite content if more British ornithologists would recognize the Willow-Tit as different from the ordinary British Marsh-Tit, whether they called it *Parus salicarius* or *P. kleinschmidti*, or adopted the trinomial name. Middlesex and Sussex were the only counties where this form had at present been detected, but it doubtless occurred in other localities also.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe described several new species of birds from Africa, as follows:—

1. Dryoscopus nandensis, n. sp.

♂. Similis *D. angolensi* et pedibus rubentibus: pileo nigro, schistaceo induto, et rostro conspicuè minore distinguendus. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 3·3, caudæ 2·75, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Nandi, Equat. Africa, 6500 feet, June 27, 1892 (*F. J. Jackson*).

2. Cisticola ambigua, n. sp.

♂. Similis *C. nuchali*, Reichen., sed hypochondriis concoloribus minimè nigro striolatis distinguenda. Alæ 2·7–2·9 poll., caudæ 1·9–2·05.

Hab. Mau (*F. J. Jackson*).

3. Cossypha omoensis, n. sp.

♂. Similis *C. giffardi*, Hartert, sed gastræo et rectricibus saturatiùs castaneis, his externis versus apicem externè nigro marginatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 10·3 poll., culm. 0·85, alæ 5·0, caudæ 4·6, tarsi 1·4.

Hab. Omo River, Equat. Africa, Dec. 22, 1899 (*Dr. Donaldson Smith*).

4. Erythropygia ukambensis, n. sp.

Ad. Similis *E. leucopteræ* (Rüpp.), sed major, rostro longiore, capite sordidiore brunneo et præpectore pectorisque summi lateribus latè nigro sagittatim

striatis. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·0, caudæ 2·8, tarsi 0·5.

Hab. Ukambani, Oct. 1894 (*F. J. Jackson*).

5. Turdinus jacksoni, n. sp.

♂. Suprà brunneus, vix olivascens, versus uropygium et supracaudales rufescentior: pileo magis fuscescenti-brunneo: loris, supercilio indistincto, et facie laterali sordidè cinereis, regione paroticâ albido striolatâ: gutture et pectore medio clarius cinereis, præpectoris lateribus paullò saturatioribus: corporis lateribus et subcaudalibus magis rufescenti-brunneis: subalaribus cinereis, vix olivascenti-brunneo lavatis. Long. tot. 5·5 poll., culm. 0·65, alæ 2·7, caudæ 1·95, tarsi 0·95.

♀. Mari similis. Ala 2·8 poll.

Hab. Nandi, April 1898 (*F. J. Jackson*).

6. Xenocichla kakamegæ, n. sp.

♂. Similis *X. tephrolæmati*, Gray, sed rostro multo minore, gutture cinereo pallidiore, præpectore olivascenti-viridi, pectore et abdomine grisescenti-olivaceis, vix flavo lavatis: remigibus intus cinereis. Long. tot. 6·7 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 3·3, caudæ 2·95, tarsi 0 75.

Hab. Kakamega Forest, Nandi, Feb. 8, 1898 (*F. J. Jackson*).

7. Crateropus hindei, n. sp.

C. rostro nigro: dorso postico, uropygio, hypochondriis et subcaudalibus pallidè cinnamomeis: capite undique et interscapulio, necnon regione propectorali nigris, plumis cano marginatis. Long. tot. 9·0 poll., culm. 0·85, alæ 4·0, caudæ 3·75, tarsi 1·2.

Hab. Athi River, Aug. 1900 (*Dr. S. L. Hinde*).

The Hon. Walter Rothschild and Mr. E. Hartert further exhibited an example of a new species of Crow, described as follows:—

Gazzola unicolor, n. sp.

Like *Gazzola typica* from Celebes in structure, size, and form, but differing in its uniform blackish colour, and the bases of the black feathers not being white, but grey. The upperside has a fine purplish-blue gloss, strongest on the wings and crown, while the hind-neck, chest, breast, and

abdomen (which are white in *G. typica*) are duller and more brownish slaty black. Wing 203 to 207 mm., tail 112 to 117, culmen 47, metatarsus 40.

Two skins in a collection made by natives on Banggai, Sula Islands.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also exhibited a specimen of *Diphyllodes gulielmitertii,* which had been procured in German New Guinea and sent to Tring by Mr. Erik Nyman.

This was the first time that an exact locality for this rare and beautiful Bird of Paradise had been discovered, but the skins formerly known in collections certainly did not come from the same place, but doubtless from some locality farther west, in Dutch New Guinea.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited some interesting varieties of the Common Partridge of the form known as *Perdix montana*, and a curious specimen with a black-masked face from Uckfield in Sussex.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE GRANT described two new species of birds from the Ethiopian Region :—

RHYNCHOSTRUTHUS PERCIVALI, n. sp.

Adult male. Most nearly allied to *R. socotranus,* Sclat. & Hartl., but only the mask of the face is black. The crown of the head and nape are earth-brown, only the forehead in front of the eyes being black ; the chin and middle of the throat are black, the sides of the throat, fore-neck, sides of neck behind the white cheek-spot, and the chest are light sandy brown. The rest of the plumage is very similar to that of the male of *R. socotranus.* Total length 6 inches, wing 3·6, tail 2·2, tarsus 0·75.

The type was obtained by Mr. G. W. Bury at Yeshbun, Hadramut (150 miles N.W. of Aden), S. Arabia, Jan. 17, 1900, and forwarded to Mr. A. B. Percival, by whom it was presented to the British Museum.

PYRRHULAUDA HARRISONI, n. sp.

Adult male. Most nearly allied to *P. verticalis* (Smith), but altogether paler ; the black of the crown, lores, fore part of cheeks, throat, sides and front of the neck, as well as the middle of the chest, being replaced by deep chestnut; the middle of the breast and belly, as well as a patch between the back of the neck and upper mantle, black; the sides of the chest, breast, and flanks white; general colour above pale earthy brown; the interscapular region, as well as the lower back and rump, uniform. Total length 4·8 inches, wing 3·0, tail 1·8, tarsus 0·65.

Adult female. Above dark earthy brown and apparently very similar to the female of *P. verticalis.* A dusky patch covers the greater part of the cheeks and ear-coverts, and the middle of the breast and belly are mostly black; the throat, fore-neck, and chest mottled brownish white tinged with sandy; the sides and flanks darker. Total length 4·75 inches, wing 2·9, tail 1·8, tarsus 0·65.

Hab. South end of Lake Rudolf, 1800 feet above the Lake.

Obtained by Mr. J. J. Harrison. Types in the British Museum.

Dr. P. Sushkin exhibited some interesting photographs, illustrating his expedition to the Kirghis Steppes.

Dr. Sushkin also made some remarks on a rare Eagle (*Lophotriorchis lucani*) from Africa, of which he had examined specimens in the British Museum. He pointed out that Dr. Sharpe was quite right in assigning this species to *Lophotriorchis,* of which genus it appeared to be a somewhat aberrant member, as it had not the chestnut under surface which distinguished *L. kieneri* and *L. isidorii.* In no case could it be the young of *Nisaëtus spilogaster* as had been suggested by Mr. Gurney.

Capt. Newnham exhibited a series of original sketches of Indian birds, as well as an interesting specimen of an immature Little Gull (*Larus minutus*) obtained by him in August 1900 in the Province of Riazan, Russia.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 19th of December, 1900, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	W. E. DE WINTON,
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXVI.

The seventy-fifth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of December, 1900.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—B. A. E. Buttress, H. E. Dresser, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), F. D. Drewitt, M.D., A. H. Evans, E. N. F. Fenwick, F. W. Frohawk, J. Gerrard, F. H. Carruthers Gould, E. Hartert, R. McD. Hawker, G. E. Lodge, A. H. Macpherson, Rev. H. A. Macpherson, B. W. Martin, H. Munt, R. Nesham, C. E. Pearson, H. J. Pearson, F. Penrose, M.D., T. Digby Pigott, C.B., H. L. Popham, A. E. Price, H. E. Rawson, Robert H. Read, A. D. Sapsworth, Howard Saunders, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), E. Cavendish Taylor, W. B. Tegetmeier, A. Thorburn, Capt. L. A. Williams, Scott B. Wilson, H. F. Witherby.

Visitors: L. Buttress, H. Goodchild, Hon. A. E. Henley, Hon. A. N. Hood, C. M. Digby Piggott, Colonel Robbins, F. Turner.

Mr. Sclater wished to make a slight correction to one of the passages of his Address read at the last Meeting (see above, p. 24). In asking for a new 'Handbook' of Australian Birds, he accidentally omitted to mention that, as noticed

[*December 29th*, 1900.]

in 'The Ibis' for 1890 (p. 385), Mr. Robert Hall, of Boxhill, Victoria, had lately issued a very useful "Key" containing the names and short characters of 767 species of Australian birds. Mr. Sclater admitted that he ought to have mentioned this work in his Address. But what he thought more specially necessary was a "Handbook" on the same subject, embracing more copious particulars drawn up in a less condensed form.

Mr. Howard Saunders exhibited, on behalf of Mr. E. Williams, of Dublin, a specimen of the Pectoral Sandpiper (*Heteropygia maculata*) shot at Belmullet, in Co. Mayo, early in last October. It proved to be a young bird in its full autumn plumage, and at first sight appeared to be rather small, but it was identical with specimens of undoubted *H. maculata* in the British Museum, with which Mr. Saunders had compared it.

On behalf of Mr. E. Bidwell, who was unable to be present at this Meeting, Mr. Howard Saunders exhibited two eggs of the Common Curlew (*Numenius arquata*), taken on Chobham Common, Surrey, in 1897. The history of these eggs had been thoroughly investigated by Mr. John A. Bucknill, the author of the "Birds of Surrey," and the evidence of the breeding of the Curlew in this southern county was beyond question. The eggs were somewhat abnormal in appearance, being more than usually spotted, but the evidence as to the finding of the nest and the description of the bird, left no doubt as to the genuineness of the discovery.

Mr. Robert H. Read exhibited some interesting nests and eggs which he had found during the present year, including:—Song-Thrush's nest with three of its own eggs and a Cuckoo's, the only instance of this kind he had ever met with; also a set of six eggs of the Song-Thrush; nest of Bullfinch with white eggs spotted with bright rust-red, rather an uncommon variety; Spotted Flycatcher's nest built inside the old nest of a Blackbird. Red-backed

Shrike's nest with set of very fine eggs; also part of a Shrike's "larder," consisting of a large beetle impaled on a spike of blackthorn. Mr. Read remarked that he had found seven Shrikes' nests this year, and many in previous years, but this was the only "larder" he had ever met with. In the discussion which followed as to the motive for a larder, Mr. Hartert believed that the victims were generally impaled for the greater convenience of tearing them in pieces, and this view was shared by the Rev. H. A. Macpherson. Mr. Howard Saunders was, however, inclined to think that it was intended as a reserve of food for the young birds.

Comte R. DE DALMAS sent the following descriptions of two new species of *Calliste* in his collection:—

"CALLISTE EMILIÆ, n. sp.

"Cette espèce est voisine et a la coloration générale de *Calliste lavinia,* Cassin, du Costa-Rica et de l'Isthme de Panama. Elle s'en distingue nettement, dans les deux sexes, par sa gorge bleue, formant une large bande médiane bleue partant du menton et atteignant la poitrine, qui est verte, pour se continuer du même bleu au centre de l'abdomen. Le *mâle* a la tête d'un marron moins rouge et plus orangé que celui de *C. lavinia*; la teinte dorée du cou postérieur et des scapulaires est plus prononcée, plus orangée, et s'étend davantage sur le dos; les couvertures des ailes montrent une beaucoup plus grande proportion de marron. Iris brun foncé, pattes noir brun, bec brun foncé, mandibule inférieure brun pâle. Long. tot. 13 mm., aile 68, queue 54.

"En outre de sa marque gulaire bleue comme le *mâle,* la *femelle* diffère également de celle de *C. lavinia* par la teinte bronzée dorée du dessus de la tête et du haut du dos, et par la teinte nette de marron clair au bord extérieur des ailes. Iris, bec et pattes comme le ♂. Long. tot. 132 mm., aile 65, queue 50.

"*Hab.* Grandes forêts humides entre l'Océan Pacifique et les premiers contre-forts des Andes en Colombie. Onze

exemplaires tués en mars et mai 1899 à San José et El Paillon, dans les environs de Buenaventura.

"CALLISTE JOHANNÆ, n. sp.

"Coloration générale vert doré. Front noir très étroit terminé par une mince bande bleu pâle s'atténuant en vert doré, couleur dont sont largement entourées toutes les plumes noires de la tête. Interscapulium et dos variés de noir et de vert doré; bas du dos et croupion jaune vif. Rectrices et rémiges primaires noires bordées de bleu, ainsi que les petites et grandes couvertures; rémiges secondaires bordées de vert comme le dos. Lores, côtés de la face, plumes auriculaires, gorge et cou antérieur noir mat, ce dernier se terminant sur la poitrine par une mince bande bleu foncé; tache allongée post-oculaire bleu pâle, grande tache définie bleu vif sur la joue tranchant nettement sur le noir mat de toute la partie inférieure de la tête. Poitrine et flancs vert doré, centre de l'abdomen et cuisses de couleur cendrée, sous-caudales jaune clair verdâtre; face interne des ailes et plumes axillaires gris noir. Iris brun foncé, bec noir, pattes gris de plomb. Long. tot. 130 mm., aile 66, queue 53.—♀ semblable, mais un peu moins colorée.

"*Hab.* Dans les mêmes forêts de Colombie que l'espèce précédente. Un couple tué le 9 mai 1899 à El Paillon, près de Buenaventura.

"Cette forme de Tangara est très distincte et ne se rapproche d'aucune autre espèce connue de *Calliste*; elle se rattache cependant par ses caractères généraux au groupe des *Calliste schranki* (Spix) et *C. florida* Scl. et Salvin."

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition a new species of *Grallaria*, which he described as follows:—

GRALLARIA PARAMBÆ, n. sp.

Upperside dark olive-brown with a rufous tinge. Remiges blackish brown, with rufous-brown outer webs and rusty margins to the inner webs. Rectrices deep rufous; upper

tail-coverts of a bright rust-colour. Lores with light bases to the feathers. Whole under surface, including the under wing-coverts, rufous ochraceous; on either side of the throat a dark shaded line, the feathers between this line and the mandible whitish; sides of breast and abdomen with a dark brown suffusion. Iris light brown, feet slaty grey; upper mandible black, lower whitish. Wing 107, tail 45, metatarsus 48, bill 30 mm.

♀ ad. Paramba, North Ecuador, 3500 feet.

Collected by Mr. G. Flemming, one of Mr. Rosenberg's correspondents.

This bird apparently has no near ally among the recorded species of the genus.

Mr. Ernst Hartert exhibited some new South-American birds, which he described as follows:—

Dacnis berlepschi, n. sp.

♂. General colour above brown (somewhat of a dark sepia-brown), brighter on the rump, and with an ashy grey tinge on the forehead. Remiges deep brown, edged with the colour of the back and inwardly lined with whitish grey; tail dark brown; throat and jugulum light brown; breast glossy fiery-red, paler in the centre of the abdomen, which is pale brown with an orange tinge; sides of abdomen rusty brown; under tail-coverts rusty buff, under wing-coverts and axillaries cream-colour. "Iris yellow, feet dark grey, bill blackish." Wing 61, tail 42, metatarsus 15, bill 12 mm.

Hab. Lita, North-western Ecuador, October 1899.

It is impossible to say whether this specimen is in full nuptial plumage or not.

This magnificent bird is named in honour of my friend Count Hans von Berlepsch, who has examined the type, and agrees with me that the species is hitherto quite unknown.

Grallaricula cumanensis, n. sp.

♂ ♀ *ad.* Lores, sides of head, throat, wide breast-band,

and sides of body bright dark ferruginous; middle of abdomen and jugular patch white; top of head and hind-neck dark grey; remainder of upper surface olive-brown; remiges blackish brown, externally edged with the colour of the back, with the extreme bases and inner webs edged with pale ferruginous; primary-coverts black; tail brown; under wing-coverts ferruginous. Wing, ♂ 70, ♀ 67, tail 31–33, metatarsus 25 mm.

Hab. Las Palmales and Rincon de San Antonio, Cumaná, Venezuela, Feb. 1898.

VIREOLANIUS MIKETTÆ, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Upperside olive-green, crown and nape ashy grey; sides of crown washed with green; a large loral patch, a spot at the base of the mandible and another under the eye and a narrow superciliary line behind the eye bright yellow, the latter consisting of narrow elongated feathers. Chin, throat, middle of breast and abdomen, inner lining of the quills, and under wing-coverts bright yellow. Sides of breast and abdomen olive-green. Wings 21, metatarsus 20, tail 51 mm.

Hab. Paramba, North Ecuador, 3500 feet alt.

This interesting form differs from *V. leucotis*, of which it may be considered the northern representative, by the absence of the white auricular patch, the deeper and brighter yellow of the under surface of the body and the superciliary line, as well as the more pronounced and more extended olive-green colour on the sides of the breast and abdomen.

Named after the collector, Mr. R. Miketta, one of Mr. W. F. H. Rosenberg's correspondents.

DYSITHAMNUS FLEMMINGI, n. sp.

♂. Feathers of the crown black, with several lateral spots of a greyish white, which produce quite a spotted appearance; remainder of upperside olive-grey, more olive on the rump and upper tail-coverts; quills deep greyish brown, almost blackish, outwardly edged with olive-grey, inwardly with buffy white; tail brownish black, with olive-grey outer edges and very narrow white tips; upper wing-coverts greyish slate-colour with white tips, only the last ones not tipped with white; chin and throat white, with black shafts to the feathers; chest olive-grey, whitish in the middle; middle of abdomen white with a yellowish shade; sides of abdomen olive-buff; under wing-coverts whitish with grey spots. Wing 59, tail about 37, metatarsus 18, culmen from forehead 17 mm.

♀. Crown-feathers rusty brown, with brown shaft-lines and tips; rest of upperside olive-brown. Wings blackish, with rusty-brown outer webs and bright rust-coloured edges to the inner webs. Tail olive-brown. Wing-coverts brown, all, with the exception of the last ones, tipped with rusty buff. Underside pale rusty; sides olive-brown, middle of abdomen slightly paler; throat whitish, feathers of jugulum with whitish shaft-lines.

Hab. Rio Verde, Cachyjacu, Lita, and Cachaví in North Ecuador. (One male and four females.)

Named in compliment to Mr. G. Flemming (who collected the typical specimens), another of Mr. W. F. H. Rosenberg's correspondents in Ecuador.

PHYLLOMYIAS VENEZUELENSIS, n. sp.

Most nearly allied to *Ph. burmeisteri* of Brazil, from which it differs in having an ashy forehead, an ashy-grey wash over the crown, much lighter green back, and brighter yellow under surface. Wing 60, tail 59, metatarsus 16, bill from base 11 mm.

Hab. Cumana, Venezuela.

ATTILA BRAZILIENSIS PARAMBÆ, n. subsp.

Differs from both typical *A. braziliensis* and *A. uropygialis* in its shorter wings, more yellow abdomen, much darker back and head, narrower and more rufous bars to the wings, formed by the edges to the wing-coverts. Wing 84, tail 73, bill 22 mm. The bill is much larger than that of Guianan examples (*A. uropygialis*, Sclater, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xiv. p. 360).

Hab. Paramba, North Ecuador.

MYIOBIUS LITÆ, n. sp.

Nearest allied to *M. phœnicomitra*, but the adult male has the centre of the crown golden yellow; the edges to the wing-coverts more distinct and more brownish; upperside more brownish; bill slightly broader, the wing shorter. Wing 62, tail 50 mm.

Hab. Lita, N.W. Ecuador, 3000 feet.

ODONTORHYNCHUS BRANICKII MINOR, n. subsp.

Differs from typical *O. branickii* in being smaller and having the upper surface darker and the central rectrices less distinctly barred. Wing 53, tail 46 mm.

Hab. Paramba, North Ecuador, 3500 feet.

Mr. HARTERT also brought for description a beautiful new *Calliste* from Paramba in Northern Ecuador (3500 feet). He found, however, that it was identical with the *Calliste johannæ*, of which Count de Dalmas had sent a description to the present meeting of the Club, and Mr. Hartert therefore suppressed the name which he had proposed for the species.

Mr. W. E. DE WINTON called attention to the "Third Interim Report of the Committee appointed to work out the details of the observations of Migration of Birds at Lighthouses and Lightships, 1880–1887." This useful work is almost entirely being done by members of the British Ornithologists' Club, under the presidency of Professor Newton. Mr. de Winton remarked:—"The report consists of a summary of observations as regards (1) the Song-Thrush (*Turdus musicus*) and (2) the White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*), and enumerates details of the natural history and especially of the movements of those two species such as have never been presented before. All ornithologists will no doubt feel with the Committee that a great debt of gratitude is due to Mr. W. Eagle Clarke for the courage and perseverance which he has shown in grappling with the enormous mass of statistics necessary to afford the results so lucidly and concisely summed up by him."

Mr. TEGETMEIER exhibited a drawing, by Mr. Frohawk, of a Bustard recently acquired by the Zoological Society, and now living in their Gardens. The bird had been captured near Port Elizabeth, and appeared to be *Otis denhami*.

Mr. POPHAM exhibited a curious red-throated variety of the Yellow Ammer (*Emberiza citrinella*) and an apparent hybrid between *Charadrius pluvialis* and *C. fulvus*. These specimens had been procured by Mr. Popham in the valley of the Yenesei.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 23rd of January, 1901, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, *Chairman.*	R. BOWDLER SHARPE, *Editor.*	W. E. DE WINTON, *Sec. & Treas.*

Note.—The members are reminded that the next meeting of the Club on the 23rd of January will be principally devoted to the exhibition of lantern-slides. The success of the last exhibition, which was greatly due to the interest taken in it by Mr. H. J. Pearson, encourages the Committee to hope that this year's exhibition will be as important as the last. Any member wishing to exhibit lantern-slides on this occasion is requested to send in a list of the exhibition proposed, *at least a week before the date of meeting,* to Dr. Bowdler Sharpe or Mr. W. E. de Winton.

Any descriptions of new species will be taken as read at the next meeting.

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXVII.

[The January Meeting of the Club, which was to have been held on the 23rd of that month, was adjourned till the 13th of February, in consequence of the death of H.M. Queen Victoria.]

The seventy-sixth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 13th of February, 1901.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, B. A. E. Buttress, A. F. Crossman, F. Curtis, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, F. D. Drewitt, M.D., A. H. Evans, F. Gayner, John Gerrard, Walter Goodfellow, W. R. Ogilvie Grant, Ernst Hartert, G. E. Lodge, H. C. Monro, E. S. Montagu, H. Munt, P. Musters, J. E. Nesham, Heatley Noble, T. Parkin, C. E. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, A. E. Price, W. P. Pycraft, Robert H. Read, C. B. Rickett, The Hon. L. Walter Rothschild, M.P., A. D. Sapsworth, Howard Saunders, F. C. Selous, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), A. J. Simey, F. W. Styan, W. B. Tegetmeier, A. Thorburn, N. F. Ticehurst, Charles Whymper, H. F. Witherby.

Visitors: H. Ashby, J. C. Baker, L. Buttress, Col. G. E. Church, A. C. Curtis, A. L. Norris, P. N. Panton, J. S. Parkin, R. J. Reid, H. Stevens, H. S. Venables.

[*February 28th*, 1901.]

The CHAIRMAN briefly alluded to the sad circumstances under which the January Meeting of the Club was necessarily postponed.

He also drew the attention of the Meeting to the loss which the Club had sustained by the death of Mr. Philip Crowley, who had taken an active part in the welfare of the Club since its foundation, and had acted as Vice-Chairman.

A vote of condolence with Mr. Crowley's family was unanimously passed.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD and Mr. ERNST HARTERT read the following notes :—

"At the November Meeting of the B. O. C. we described as new a Flycatcher from New Guinea under the name of *Micrœca viridiflava.* We find that this is the bird called *Pœcilodryas papuana* in the 'Catalogue of Birds' and in the 'Ornithologia della Papuasia.' It is figured on plate viii. of the fourth volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds,' but the figure is not at all good. We doubt the correctness of the placing of this bird in the genus *Pœcilodryas,* and we call attention to the fact that its original describer, Dr. A. B. Meyer, placed it also in the genus *Micrœca.* We will not, however, here discuss the vexed question of the supposed genera of the *Muscicapidæ,* which we find in some cases very difficult to separate.

"In no. 1 (January 1901), p. 4, of the 9th volume of the 'Orn. Monatsberichte,' Professor Reichenow described a bird which he named *Sericornis salvadorii.* The excellent description does not seem to leave any doubt that this is the bird we described as *Crateroscelis pectoralis* at the November Meeting of this Club. We must admit that the genera *Crateroscelis* and *Sericornis* are very closely allied, but we consider our bird certainly to belong to the former, especially on account of its short and soft tail and very long and strong feet and legs.

"At the December Meeting of this Club Mr. Hartert described a remarkable new *Dacnis* as *Dacnis berlepschi.* The specimen was labelled 'male,' but additional material has shown that it is a female and that the real adult male of this fine species is a beautiful black-and-blue bird with a glossy fiery-red breast. It will be exhibited at the next Meeting of this Club and figured and described in detail in the 'Novitates Zoologicæ.'"

Mr. Ernst Hartert read the following note by Mr. W. Ruskin Butterfield, on the occurrence of an example of *Puffinus obscurus bailloni* in Sussex :—

"A small Shearwater was picked up in an exhausted condition on the beach near Bexhill during the hard gale from the W.S.W. on Friday, 28th December, 1900. I am informed by Dr. H. Colborne, the Borough Meteorologist for Hastings, that the south-westerly winds set in about the 23rd of Dec. and continued, with increasing intensity, until the 28th—the windiest day of the year. The bird was kept alive for two days and afterwards passed into the hands of Mr. George Bristow, jun., of this town, when I was afforded an opportunity of seeing it in the flesh. I formed the opinion at the time that it would turn out to belong to the same form as the Shearwaters collected by Capt. Boyd Alexander in the Cape Verd Islands, and referred by him to *Puffinus assimilis* ('The Ibis,' 1898, p. 98). This opinion has been confirmed by Messrs. Ernst Hartert and Howard Saunders, who have kindly examined the specimen. It is a female by dissection.

"Through the kind offices of Mr. Hartert I have been able to compare the present specimen with skins collected by Capt. Alexander, and with skins of the allied forms, and I am not surprised that Messrs. Rothschild and Hartert do not employ the name *P. assimilis* for this Shearwater (Nov. Zool. vi. p. 196). According to these authorities it should be known as *P. obscurus bailloni*, Bp., at any rate until it can be shown to be different from the form which occurs in the Mascarenes, Mauritius, &c.

"This is the third example of *P. obscurus bailloni* recorded in the British Islands, and the first for the county of Sussex."

Mr. C. B. Rickett exhibited specimens of two apparently new species of birds from China:—

Gecinus citrinocristatus, n. sp.

Differs from *G. chlorolophus* in being a darker (*i. e.* much less *golden*) green above. The nuchal crest is lemon-, instead of orange-yellow. The underparts are a uniform smoky brown, with a very decided green wash. The markings on the throat are confined to a line of very small whitish spots on either side, and those on the underparts to some spots on the sides and bars on the flanks. The type specimen, which is a male, measured in the flesh: length 10·5 inches, wing 5·4, tail 4·5, culmen 1·1.

Iris reddish brown. Upper mandible black, with a yellow streak below the nostril; lower mandible yellowish, with a black tip. Legs lead-colour.

Shot at Yamakan, Fohkien Province, South China.

Anser oatesi, n. sp.

Similar in size and plumage to *A. brachyrhynchus*, but with a *much* larger bill and a white chin. The upper mandible, measured in a straight line from the feathered edge of the forehead to the tip of the nail, is 2·3, and the depth of the bill at the forehead 1·3, similar measurements in *Anser brachyrhynchus* being 1·8 and 1·0 respectively. Other measurements of *A. oatesi* are: wing 16·4 inches, tarsus 2·9, mid-toe and claw 3·1.

This description is taken from a single specimen shot near Foochow, Fohkien Province, South China, in January.

The bird was unfortunately not sexed, and only the head and neck, one wing, and a leg have been preserved.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe drew attention to two apparently unrecognized races of *Prionops talacoma*, for which he proposed the following names:—

Prionops melanoptera, n. sp.

Similis *P. talacomæ*, sed alis omnino nigris, minime albo longitudinaliter fasciatis distinguendus. Long. tot. 8·3 poll., culm. 0·95, alæ 4·55, caudæ 3·55, tarsi 0·95.

Type from Fer Libah, Somali-land, Oct. 20, 1896 (*Dr. A. E. Atkinson*). Mus. Brit. Presented by Lord Delamere.

Hab. Somali-land (*E. Lort Phillips*), Webbe Shebeli (*F. Gillett*), Fer Libah (*Dr. Atkinson*).

PRIONOPS IMTERMEDIA, n. sp.

Similis *P. talacomæ*, sed tectricibus alarum haud albo notatis, et secundariis intimis anguste albo limbatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 7·6 poll., culm. 0·95, alæ 4·35, caudæ 3·4, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. British E. Africa, Taveta (*H. C. V. Hunter*), Teita (*C. Stuart Betton*: type of species).

Dr. SHARPE also described the following species:—

SYLVIELLA GAIKWARI, n. sp.

♂. Similis *S. isabellinæ*, Elliot, sed uropygio cinereo dorso concolore, minime fulvo, distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·5 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 2·45, caudæ 1·1, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Ania, Somali-land (*Dr. A. Donaldson Smith*).

FRINGILLARIA SATURATIOR, n. sp.

Similis *F. striolatæ*, sed ubique saturatior, notæo saturatiore brunneo, capite brunneo nec griseo, gutture et præpectore sordide cinerascentibus: pectore, abdomine, tibiis et subcaudalibus rufescentibus, minime isabellinis. Long. tot. 5·1 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·10, caudæ 2·0, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Lake Stephanie (*Dr. A. Donaldson Smith*).

Mr. SCLATER exhibited two specimens of an apparently new Wren of the genus *Thryothorus*, which had been obtained by Messrs. Goodfellow and Hamilton at Papallacta, in Eastern Ecuador, in February 1899. These skins appeared to belong to a new species allied to *T. euophrys*, Scl., of Western Ecuador, which Mr. Sclater proposed to call after one of its discoverers:

THRYOTHORUS GOODFELLOWI, n. sp.

T. supra rufo-brunneus, alis caudaque extus dorso concoloribus; pileo cinerascente, fronte et superciliis albis, striga transoculari nigra: subtus cinereus, fusco adumbratus;

gutture toto albo, præpectore maculis nigris ornato: rostro corneo, pedibus fuscis. Long. tota 6·2, alæ 2·8, caudæ 2·7 poll. Angl.

Hab. Æquatoria occidentalis.

Obs. Similis *T. euophryi*, sed gula late alba diagnoscendus.

Mr. Sclater called attention to the great irruption of Nutcrackers (*Nucifraga caryocatactes*) which had lately taken place in Northern Germany* and Holland, and expressed some surprise that some stray members of the flocks, which apparently came from the East, had not reached this country. He exhibited two specimens of this bird procured in Holland and kindly forwarded to him by Mr. F. E. Blaauw, who was inclined to refer them to what is commonly called the thin-billed form (*N. c. leptorhyncha*).

Mr. Sclater exhibited, on behalf of Mr. D. Le Souëf, a further set of photographs illustrating the nests and eggs of Australian birds, and called special attention to those representing colonies of the White Egret (*Herodias timoriensis*) (200 feet from the ground), Yellow-billed Spoonbill (*Platalea flavipes*) (100 feet from the ground), and Little Black Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*) (about 150 feet from the ground), also to one of a nest of the Great Crested Grebe (*Podicipes cristatus*), in which the nest was entirely uncovered, contrary to the usual habit of this species, because the bird had been frightened away suddenly from the nest.

Mr. Sclater likewise called attention to a photograph of a nesting-hole of the Australian Bee-eater (*Merops ornatus*). The contents of the nest, placed outside, were four young ones, all of different ages, and an unhatched egg, showing the great interval there must be between the dates of the deposit of the eggs of this bird.

Mr. W. B. Tegetmeier exhibited some legs of the Common Pheasant, showing an absence of spurs in full-plumaged birds and considerable weakness in the size and structure of the legs.

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* See Dr. R. Blasius in Zeitsch. f. Orn. u. prakt. Geflugelzucht, Jan. 1, 1901.

Mr. E. **Bidwell** exhibited, on behalf of Mr. Henry Stevens, an egg of the Great Auk (*Plautus impennis*), and gave the following history of the specimen :—"This egg was in 1855 in the collection of M. le Baron Henri de Veze, who had purchased it of Parzudaki of Paris. In 1858 it was sold, through the agency of Fairmaire of Paris, to M. le Count Raoul de Barracé of Angers, and after his death it was purchased with the Barracé collection, in March 1887, by M. le Baron Charles d'Hamonville, whose decease last year has again brought the egg into the market."

Mr. **Robert H. Read** exhibited a series of slides of Scandinavian nests and eggs, including those of Fieldfares in Scotch fir and birch trees, Short-eared Owl's with 10 eggs amongst juniper and white reindeer moss, a fine and picturesquely situated nest of the Rough-legged Buzzard with 5 eggs, nests of the Lapland Bunting, Wood-Sandpiper, and Broad-billed Sandpiper, &c., all from Norway; nests of the Red-breasted Merganser, Honey-Buzzard, and Little Ringed Plover from Sweden; and British nests of the Ringed, Kentish, and Stone-Curlew Plovers from the shingly beaches of Sussex and Kent.

Mr. **Read** also exhibited various micro-photo lantern-slides illustrating the structure of the down of Ducks, male and female, in summer and winter plumage, with a view of elucidating the phenomenon of the felting or cohesion of down in the nests of Ducks, a cohesion which is entirely wanting in the down taken from Ducks in winter plumage.

Mr. **Francis Gayner** exhibited lantern-slides showing a young Short-eared Owl in a nest in the Cambridgeshire Fens, also some pictures of nests and eggs of Ringed Plovers and Little Terns, an Eider Duck on her nest on the coast of Inverness, views of the cliffs of Handa Island, Sutherlandshire, showing the breeding-places of Kittiwakes, Guillemots, and Razorbills.

Mr. HORACE MONRO showed some interesting slides illustrating the life of birds on the Farn Islands, as well as some nests of the Chaffinch, Sky-Lark, Red-legged Partridge, &c.

Mr. N. F. TICEHURST exhibited a number of slides of nests and eggs of British Birds, viz., those of the Mallard, Merganser, Black Guillemot, Oyster-catcher, and Lesser Black-backed Gull, from the west coast of Inverness; Garganey Teal from Romney Marsh, believed to be the first instance known of the breeding of this species in Kent; &c. &c. He likewise showed a series of pictures of nests and eggs from Orkney, including one of the Red-necked Phalarope, supposed to be the first instance of the bird's nesting on the mainland.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 20th of March, 1901, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, *Chairman.*
R. BOWDLER SHARPE, *Editor.*
W. E. DE WINTON, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXVIII.

The seventy-seventh Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of March, 1901.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, F. E. Blaauw, J. L. Bonhote, A. E. Crossman, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, A. H. Evans, C. Garnett, W. Goodfellow, F. H. Carruthers Gould, W. R. Ogilvie Grant, E. Hartert, G. E. Lodge, A. McL. Marshall, Colonel Mason, J. G. Millais, E. S. Montagu, H. Munt, E. Neale, H. Noble, F. G. Penrose, M.D., T. Digby Pigott, C.B., A. E. Price, C. B. Rickett, Hon. L. Walter Rothschild, M.P., F. Sharman, W. B. Tegetmeier, A. Thorburn, N. F. Ticehurst, H. M. Wallis, C. Whymper, E. A. Wilson, H. F. Witherby, C. A. Wright.

Visitors: F. C. Barrow, Sir Hugh Beevor, Bart., G. Evans, T. V. Hodgson, J. A. Tregellen.

Mr. W. R. Ogilvie Grant exhibited, on behalf of Mr. Joseph I. S. Whitaker, an example of a new species of Long-tailed Titmouse which the latter had obtained in the interior of Sicily. In the Museum of Palermo Mr. Whitaker he had seen a solitary example of this *Acredula* obtained some years ago in the same wood from which his specimens had

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been procured. All were exactly alike in plumage. No other form of *Acredula* appeared to be found in Sicily, although Doderlein has stated that *A. irbii* was met with there.

Mr. Whitaker proposed to call the Sicilian bird

ACREDULA SICULA, n. sp.

Adult male and female. Most nearly allied to *A. caucasica* (Lorenz), but distinguished by its shorter wings and tail; the brown sides of the crown are not so dark, and the white stripe down the middle of the crown, so well-marked in *A. caucasica*, is much less pronounced, the feathers being partly streaked with brown. Iris dark hazel, eyelid yellowish; bill and feet blackish brown.

A. sicula:
♂ ad. Total length 5·0, wing 2·25, tail 2·9, tarsus 0·6.
♀ ad. Total length 5 0, wing 2·2, tail 2·9, tarsus 0·6.
A. caucasica:
♂. Total length 5·5, wing 2·45, tail 3·3, tarsus 0·7.
♀. Total length 5·5, wing 2·45, tail 3·2, tarsus 0·7.

The specimens of *A. caucasica* had been kindly forwarded to Mr. Grant for examination by Mr. W. E. Hoyle, the Director of the Owens College Museum, Manchester.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited the type of a remarkable new species of Bush-shrike, which he described as follows:—

LANIARIUS DOHERTYI, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Upperside bright olive-green; forehead to about the middle of the eye crimson. Lores, a line over the eye reaching as far as the red on the forehead, ear-coverts, and a wide line bordering the red throat and connecting a 17 mm. wide black pectoral crescent with the ear-coverts, deep black. Chin and throat, as well as under tail-coverts, crimson. Middle of breast and abdomen and thighs bright yellow, sides of breast and abdomen yellowish olive-green. Quills of a deep blackish slate-colour, outer webs olive-green; under wing-coverts dull green. Tail black, with extremely narrow olive tips and outer margins in freshly moulted specimens.

Iris deep brown, feet grey, bill black. Wing 81 to 83, tail about 85, metatarsus 29, culmen nearly 20 mm.

Hab. Nandi Escarpment, British East Africa, 6500 to 8000 feet above the sea. Several adult and young males sent by Mr. William Doherty.

Obs. "This fine bird, which I dedicate to its discoverer, is somewhat similar to *Laniarius quadricolor*, but differs in many points. The forehead is crimson instead of green, there is no yellow line from the bill to above the eye, the throat is deep crimson and not scarlet, the black pectoral crescent wider, the underside pure yellow, and the upper surface of a much brighter and somewhat less olive-green. *L. dohertyi* agrees rather with *L. viridis* in the wide pectoral black collar and no green forehead, but it differs in the red instead of orange forehead, in the absence of red below the black collar, and in the yellow abdomen."

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD further showed a specimen of *Phasianus mongolicus* which had been sent to Europe alive, along with several others, from Yarkand. It was remarkable for the absence of the white collar. Another male at present alive at Tring had the collar only partly developed, as in *Ph. mongolicus semitorquatus*. If these birds all came from the same place, the latter form must be considered only as an aberration.

The Hon. W. ROTHSCHILD also exhibited an apparently hermaphrodite specimen of *Phasianus reevesi*.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited a specimen of a new form of Thickhead, which he described as follows:—

PACHYCEPHALA TIANDUANA, n. sp.

This new form belongs to the same group as *Pachycephala leucogaster* (1875), *P. arctitorquis* (1883), and *P. meeki* (1898), which should evidently all be treated as subspecies of one form, as well as the new *P. tianduana*. This latter resembles in the male sex *P. meeki* perhaps more than the other forms. It differs from *P. meeki* from Rossel Island in its slightly paler upperside, longer wing, cream-coloured abdomen, and less deep black tail. It differs from *P. arctitorquis* from Tenimber and Dammar in the much darker colour of the upperside, wider black pectoral crescent, and darker tail. The sides of the breast are of a light buffy grey, not so grey as in *P. meeki*, and not so white as in *P. arctitorquis*. Iris brownish red, feet plumbeous, bill black. Wing at least 86 mm. (The specimens are all moulting or worn!). One female sent resembles that of *P. arctitorquis*, but is more greyish and less rufous above. It differs from the female of *P. meeki* in being lighter on the breast. This female, however, is perhaps immature, and too much importance can therefore not be attached to a shade of coloration until more specimens are available for comparison.

Hab. Tiandu, west of the Key Islands. Three males and a female sent to the Tring Museum by Mr. H. Kühn.

Mr. Sclater called attention to the proposals lately made to establish an Ornithologists' Union in Australia. At a meeting held at Sydney on March 7th, 1900, after a complimentary dinner given to Mr. Dudley Le Souëf, C.M.Z.S., Assistant Director of the Zoological Garden of Melbourne (a gentleman well known to many of the members of the B.O.C., as a visitor to several of its meetings), it had been proposed by Mr. A. J. Campbell to found an "Australian Ornithologists' Union" for the new Commonwealth. This proposal had met with a cordial reception, and a Committee, consisting of Messrs. A. J. Campbell, G. A. Keartland, Robert Hall, Y. Gabriel, D. Le Souëf, and Charles Ryan, had been appointed to consider the subject with a view to further action.

It was agreed that the Secretary of the B.O.C. be requested to write to Mr. A. J. Campbell and offer to the Committee the best wishes of the B.O.C. for the success of the project.

Mr. Heatley Noble exhibited sets of eggs of *Chen hyperboreus, Somateria spectabilis, Heniconetta stelleri, Charadrius* *dominicus*, and *Tringa maculata*. The eggs of the last species he believed to be the first sent to this country. The eggs of the Eiders were interesting, as showing that those of all the three species found in Europe can be identified, not only by their size, but also by the colour of the down, which in the Common Eider is light, in the King-Eider darker, and in Steller's Eider darker still. All the eggs exhibited had been taken by Mr. McIlhenny's expedition to Alaska in 1898.

Mr. F. E. Blaauw, C.M.Z.S., wished to draw attention to the fact of *Theristicus melanopis* having a fleshy throat-wattle during the breeding-season. He had kept living examples of both *Theristicus melanopis* and *Theristicus caudatus* at 'sGraveland during several years in an aviary, so that he had had good opportunity to observe them. The fleshy caruncle or wattle in the middle of the throat was black, of about the size and shape of a sixpence, and was of a *very* soft structure. When the breeding-season was over, this wattle shrivelled up and finally quite disappeared, so that only a few wrinkles remained on the bare skin of the throat.

The absence of this wattle out of the breeding-season and its soft texture, even when present, were probably the reason of its having been overlooked by Count Salvadori and others, who evidently only had dried skins of this bird at their disposal.

One of the characters hitherto given of the genus *Theristicus*, "throat without a fleshy wattle in the centre," was therefore not quite correct. *Theristicus caudatus* had never developed any fleshy appendage during the breeding-season or out of it; the presence or absence of the throat-wattle was, therefore, an additional distinction between *Theristicus melanopis* and *Th. caudatus*.

Mr. Blaauw also exhibited an egg of *Chen rossi*, laid by a female of this species kept by him in captivity in his park at 'sGraveland. The egg had a longish shape and was cream-coloured, resembling the egg of *Chen hyperboreus*, but being smaller. As the bird was without a male, no young ones of course were hatched.

Mr. Digby Pigott, on behalf of the Earl of Ducie, called the attention of the Club to the great reduction in the number of Wood-Pigeons noticed last autumn in Gloucestershire, where the birds usually collected in great flocks in autumn to feed in the beech- and oak-woods. The crops of both mast and acorns were abnormally large, but the flocks of Pigeons were barely one-tenth of their usual numbers.

A falling-off in the numbers of the immigrant flocks of these birds, scarcely less remarkable, was also noticed in parts of Oxfordshire and in St. James's Park.

Lord Ducie further reported the settlement of a flock of Pochards last winter on the lake at Tortworth, where the birds had seldom been seen before, excepting in occasional solitary pairs.

A pair arrived in the middle of January. Towards the end of the month the number increased to 9, and gradually rose to 14, 19, 20, 24, and finally (on February 20) to 27, of which all but 7 were males.

The birds, not being molested, became very tame, and could be approached within 70 yards, only flying 100 yards or so when disturbed.

At the end of February the hounds were in the coverts and frightened the birds. The next day 9 only were to be seen. These were still on the lake a few day ago.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild, Mr. J. G. Millais, Mr. Heatley Noble, and others spoke on the same subject, while Mr. F. E. Blaauw stated that an unusual number of Wood-Pigeons had remained in Holland this winter. It was therefore possible that an equally good crop of beech-mast and acorns on the Continent had prevented the usual immigration to Great Britain.

Mr. W. B. Tegetmeier exhibited the tracheal rings and a feather of *Dinornis*, as well as some pebbles from the gizzard, found along with the skeleton in a peat-bog near Otago, New Zealand.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe sent descriptions of three new species of birds from Equatorial Africa* received by him just before the Meeting:—

Gallirex johnstoni, n. sp.

♀. Similis *G. porphyrolopho* et *G. chlorochlamydi*, sed pileo omnino viridi, gula superiore tota chalybea, et plaga cervicali coccinea facile distinguendus. Long. tot. 16·5 poll., culm. 1·35, alæ 6·7, caudæ 7·15, tarsi 1·6.

Hab. Mt. Ruwenzori, 7000 feet (*Sir Harry Johnston*).

Penthetriopsis humeralis, n. sp.

Similis *P. sorori*, sed major, et plaga alari aurantiaca distinguenda; tectricibus alarum minimis læte aurantiacis, medianis pallide cervinis. Long. tot. 8·4 poll., culm. 0·75, alæ 3·95, caudæ 4·3, tarsi 1·0.

Hab. Mt. Elgon (*F. J. Jackson*).

Dryoscopus jacksoni, n. sp.

♂. Supra schistaceus, uropygio vix albo mixto: pileo nigro, interscapulio quoque nigricante: fronte basali et supercilio lato albis: regione oculari et facie laterali tota nigris, fasciam latam, ad cervicem conjunctam, formantibus: genis et gastræo toto albis, præpectore et pectoris lateribus ochrascenti-fulvis: remigibus et rectricibus nigris: pedibus quoque nigris. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 3·15, caudæ 2·55, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Mt. Elgon, Equatorial Africa (*F. J. Jackson*).

It was agreed, on the proposal of the Chairman, that the congratulations of his brother Members of the Club be sent to Capt. Aymer E. Maxwell, D.S.O., on his having received the V.C. during the war in South Africa.

[P. T. O.

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* Owing to the illness of the Editor, he was not able to be present, and the typical specimens will be exhibited at the next Meeting.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 17th of April, 1901, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	W. E. DE WINTON,
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Sec. & Treas.*

Mem.—The TREASURER wishes to call attention to the unnecessary trouble that is caused by the thoughtlessness of Members in posting remittances for their subscriptions without any clue being given as to the sender's name. During the present session no fewer than six such payments have been received, and until the names of these gentlemen have been traced, they cannot expect to receive copies of the 'Bulletin.'

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXIX.

The seventy-eighth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of April, 1901.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, W. Fitzherbert Brockholes, A. E. Buttress, A. F. Crossman, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, F. W. Frohawk, J. Gerrard, G. E. Lodge, A. H. Macpherson, J. G. Millais, H. C. Monro, F. G. Penrose, M.D., H. L. Popham, A. E. Price, A. D. Sapsworth, H. Saunders, F. C. Selous, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), W. B. Tegetmeier, A. Thorburn, C. Whymper, H. F. Witherby.

Visitors: Rev. W. Drury, Rev. J. Gerard, F.L.S., F. W. Headley, R. S. Archbould, H. O. Whittall.

Mr. H. E. Dresser exhibited some coloured pictures of eggs and reproductions of Mr. Thorburn's pictures of birds which had been produced by Messrs. Carl Hentschel and Co.'s "three-colour" photography.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe exhibited the type specimens of *Gallirex johnstoni*, *Dryoscopus jacksoni*, and *Penthetriopsis humeralis*, described by him at the last Meeting.

[*April 25th*, 1901.] VOL. XI.

Dr. Sharpe also made some notes on the species of *Muscicapidæ,* and pointed out that *Siphia enganensis,* Ogilvie Grant, was the male of *Siphia herioti,* Wardlaw Ramsay, both species having been described from Luzon.

Dendrobiastes basilanica, Sharpe (Tr. Linn. Soc., Zool. new ser. i. p. 332, 1876), was without doubt the female of *Muscicapula mindanensis,* W. Blasius (J. f. O. 1890, p. 147). The rufous female was very much like a *Setaria* and other Timeliine forms, and had been placed by Dr. Sharpe in the latter family. The species should be called *Muscicapula basilanica.*

Pœcilodryas armiti, De Vis, which had been considered to be a *Pachycephalopsis* by Count Salvadori (Ann. Mus. Genov. (2) xvi. p. 89, 1896) seemed to Dr. Sharpe to be a species of *Heteromyias,* nearly allied to *H. cinereifrons* (Ramsay), and should be called *Heteromyias armiti.*

Dr. Sharpe also pointed out that the *Cryptolopha* from Kina Balu, hitherto identified by himself and others as *C. trivirgata,* was a distinct species, which he proposed to call

CRYPTOLOPHA KINABALUENSIS, n. sp.

Similis *C. trivirgatæ,* sed pileo medio grisescente, nec flavo, et corpore subtus albicante, vix flavo lavato, minime læte flavo distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·0 poll., alæ 2·35.

Mr. Sclater called attention to an example of the Alpine form of the Ring-Ouzel (*Turdus torquatus*) from Transylvania, which had been presented to the Zoological Society by Mr. J. Young, F.Z.S., in August 1894, and was still living in the Gardens, and made some remarks on the *status* of this species or subspecies. The specimen was at first supposed to be a young bird, but it still retained the broad white edgings to the feathers, and was evidently referable to *Turdus alpestris,* Brehm, recognized as a distinct species in the Supplement to Dresser's 'Birds of Europe' (p. 9, pl. 635).

A discussion on the species of Ring-Ouzel followed, in which Messrs. HOWARD SAUNDERS, J. G. MILLAIS, H. E. DRESSER, F. C. SELOUS, and BOWDLER SHARPE took part.

Mr. SCLATER also announced that the second volume of the 'Birds of South Africa,' edited by Mr. W. L. Sclater from the MS. prepared by the late Dr. Stark, with additions and corrections by the Editor, was now passing through the press, and would shortly be ready for issue. It would contain the remainder of the Passerine Birds.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 22nd of May, 1901, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, *Chairman.*	R. BOWDLER SHARPE, *Editor.*	W. E. DE WINTON, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXX.

The seventy-ninth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 22nd of May, 1901.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—Colonel C. T. Bingham, F. Curtis, H. E. Dresser, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), Colonel Duthie, W. Goodfellow, F. H. Carruthers Gould, E. Hartert, J. E. Harting, G. E. Lodge, J. G. Millais, H. Monro, E. S. Montagu, E. Neale, C. E. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, M.D., E. Lort Phillips, A. E. Price, Hon. N. Chas. Rothschild, Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P., A. D. Sapsworth, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), A. J. Simey, A. Thorburn, H. F. Witherby, A. F. R. Wollaston.

Visitors: K. E. Mackenzie, R. E. Vaughan-Williams.

Mr. Ernst Hartert made some remarks on *Alaudidæ*.

In the 'Novitates Zoologicæ' for 1900 (pp. 45, 46) he had distinguished a number of sub-species of *Mirafra africana*, and among others had described a very light form from the Athi Plains, in British East Africa, as *Mirafra africana athi*. Of this very distinct race, Mr. W. Doherty had now sent to Mr. Rothschild a series from an elevation of from 6000 to 6500 feet on the Mau Escarpment, near the present terminus of the Uganda Railway. These specimens were generally not quite so light in colour as the typical *M. afr. athi,* but they could not be separated from them.

The Tring Museum had received in exchange from the Lisbon Museum a specimen of *Mirafra angolensis* of Bocage, from Caconda in Benguela. This was a very interesting form, with a rather short wing, like *M. africana transvaalensis,* very sandy rufous above, and with the central rectrices very broadly edged with rufous, the lateral rectrices with the outer web and half of the inner one buffy white. This coloration of the tail distinguished *M. africana angolensis* from *M. afr. transvaalensis.*

There occurred, however, another form in Angola as well, apparently confined to the coast. It was above brownish grey, much more greyish than any of the other allied forms. Only the outer webs of the lateral rectrices were buffy white, and there was no rufous in the tail at all. This was probably Hartlaub's *M. occidentalis,* described from Gaboon. There were specimens of it in the Tring Museum from Catumbela and Quissange in Benguela.

Mr. HARTERT also described a new form of a Short-toed Lark, which he called

CALANDRELLA PISPOLETTA CANARIENSIS, subsp. nov.

It differed from typical *C. pispoletta, C. minor,* and *C. bætica,* which were all sub-species of one species, in its rufous-brown upper surface and small size, the bill being somewhat slenderer, as in *C. bætica,* though *Calandrella pispoletta minor* from North Africa was apparently its nearest ally, as regarded colour of plumage. The chest was more heavily spotted than in *C. minor,* but not quite so largely as in *C. bætica.* The Tring Museum had a series of the new form collected on the island of Tenerife by Dr. Curt Floericke. Type ♂ ad., Laguna, 7. 3. 1901. Wing 83 (♀) to 88 (♂) mm.

Mr. HARTERT also gave some details of his recent trip to Western Morocco. He exhibited a skin of the rare *Comatibis eremita* (L.) which he had himself observed and shot, and a specimen of the southern form of the Wood-Warbler. This had been called *Phylloscopus sibilatrix flavescens* by Erlanger from Tunisian specimens. Although skins of this form could sometimes hardly be distinguished from typical European *P. sibilatrix,* Mr. Hartert was now fully convinced that *P. flavescens* must be separated, as its song was very different from that of true *P. sibilatrix.*

Mr. HARTERT also exhibited a skin of a fine new species of *Collocalia* discovered by Mr. A. L. Butler in the interior of Selangore. The name proposed for the species was

COLLOCALIA GIGAS, Hartert & Butler, n. sp.

♀. Differs from *C. fuciphaga,* with which it agrees in colour, and all other *Collocaliæ* in its enormous size. Wing 157, tail 64, tarsus 15 mm. (the latter bare, except in front on its upper portion for 4 mm.); fork of tail about 4 mm.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited a small Kingfisher from Yamdena, in the Timor-Laut Islands, which was a near ally of *Alcyone azurea pulchra* from North Queensland, but differed in its smaller size and in the distinct brownish tip to the bill. In this latter peculiarity it resembled *Alcyone azurea affinis* from the Northern Moluccas, which had a red tip to the bill, but was much larger and had a much more powerful bill. The type of

ALCYONE AZUREA YAMDENÆ, subsp. nov.,

as Mr. Rothschild proposed to call the new form, had a wing of only 71 mm., the tail 30, bill (along the culmen) 48 mm.

This specimen had been obtained by Mr. H. Kühn.

Mr. HARTING exhibited a specimen of a Falcon killed in Essex, and invited the opinion of the members present as to whether the bird was a Peregrine or a Norway Jer-Falcon.

A discussion took place, in which Mr. J. G. MILLAIS, Mr. G. E. LODGE, Mr. NEALE, Mr. MUNRO, and Mr. DRESSER favoured the idea of the bird being a dark variety of a female *Falco peregrinus,* while the Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, Mr. Hartert, Mr. Harting, and Dr. Bowdler Sharpe emphatically pronounced it to be a Jer-Falcon.

The Hon. Charles Rothschild exhibited a series of specimens of birds and eggs collected by himself and Mr. A. F. R. Wollaston near Shendy Sudan during their recent expedition. Amongst the skins obtained were those of *Ægithalus punctifrons*, *Spiloptila clamans*, *Cotile minor*, and of the new Grass-Warbler (*Cisticola aridula*) recently obtained by Mr. Witherby. Eggs of *Passer rufidorsalis*, *Cotile minor*, *Hirundo smithi*, *Argya acaciæ*, *Corvus scapulatus*, *Turtur ambiguus*, and *T. roseogriseus* were exhibited. The greatest interest, however, attached to the series of the beautiful Nightjar (*Caprimulgus eximius*), of which the travellers not only obtained many specimens of both sexes, but also discovered the eggs, young birds, and nestling.

On behalf of Mr. Montagu, Mr. Dresser exhibited a specimen of an aberration of the Yellow-Hammer (*Emberiza citrinella*). On the motion of Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, the discussion on this question was postponed to the next meeting.

Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant sent for exhibition a pair of the nearly extinct Merganser (*Merganser australis*), obtained on Auckland Island by Lord Ranfurly during a collecting trip to the islands south of New Zealand. Lord Ranfurly was ably assisted by Professor Hutton, who accompanied him; and the collection of birds, which were all sent home preserved in jars of formaline, contained many interesting and valuable birds, such as the Flightless Duck (*Nesonetta aucklandica*) and examples of the various Cormorants inhabiting the different islands. Two Cormorants from Bounty Islands appeared to belong to an undescribed species:

Phalacrocorax ranfurlyi, n. sp.

Adult male. Most nearly allied to *P. stewarti*, but at once distinguished by the absence of the wide white band across the rump (only suggested by one white feather on each side) and by the very different colour of the soft naked skin on the face. Iris pale brown, naked skin round the eye and gular pouch light orange, legs and feet flesh-colour. Total length ca. 27·0 inches, culmen from feathers on forehead to tip 2·4, depth to cutting-edge 0·4, wing 11·2, tail 5·3, tarsus 2·6, outermost toe and claw 4·4.

Hab. Bounty Islands, New Zealand, 15th Jan., 1901.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe described two apparently new species of birds from Sir Harry Johnston's collection :—

Pœocephalus saturatus, n. sp.

♂. *P.* similis *P. meyeri* et speciebus affinibus, sed supra saturate brunneus, fere nigricans, olivaceo-viridi adumbratus: dorso postico et uropygio smaragdino-cyaneo, supracaudalibus flavidius-viridibus: pectore et abdomine smaragdino-gramineis. Long. tot. 8·0 poll., culm. 0·95, alæ 5·8, caudæ 2·7, tarsi 0·6.

Hab. North Ankole, 3000 feet, Aug. 1900.

Pogonocichla intensa, n. sp.

♂. Similis *P. orientali,* sed ubique saturatior, uropygio et caudæ parte pallidiore intense aurantiaceis fere ochraceo-rufis: gula cinerea, macula alba gulari conspicuo ornata: corpore reliquo subtus saturate aurantiaco, fere rufescente. Long. tot. 5·6 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 3·0, caudæ 2·25, tarsi 1·1.

Hab. Ntebi, Uganda, 3800 feet, April 20, 1900.

Mr. Ogilvie-Grant forwarded the description of a new species of Honey-Guide obtained by Mr. Alfred E. Pease, M.P., during his recent journey through Somaliland and Abyssinia. He stated that Mr. Pease had brought back a very large collection of bird-skins, which at present had only been superficially examined. The collection contained representatives of a large number of interesting species, but the only novelty appeared to be

Prodotiscus peasei, n. sp.

Adult male. Most nearly allied to *P. regulus* from S.E. Africa, but at once distinguished by having only a narrow streak of white on the outer tail-feathers, on the middle of the inner web next to the shaft; the middle tail-feathers, moreover, browner and less black. Iris brown, bill black, legs dark grey. Total length ca. 5·3 inches, wing 3·25, tail 2·1, tarsus 0·5.

Hab. Unji, Abyssinia, 19th Feb., 1901.

Mr. Sclater called the attention of the Meeting to the establishment, by the German Ornithological Society, under the patronage of the Royal Government, of an Ornithological Station at Rossitten, in the Kurische Nehrung, on the Baltic coast of East Prussia. The principal object of the Station seemed to be for the observation of migration, but, as would be seen by the rules (J. f. O. 1901, p. 274), other subjects of importance would also be attended to. Prof. Dr. R. Blasius, of Brunswick, had been appointed President, and Herr J. Thienemann, Resident-Director of the new Institution.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 19th of June, 1901, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater,	R. Bowdler Sharpe,	W. E. de Winton,
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXXI.

THE eightieth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of June, 1901.

Chairman: HOWARD SAUNDERS.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, Colonel C. T. BINGHAM, B. A. E. BUTTRESS, A. F. CROSSMAN, W. E. DE WINTON (*Treasurer*), H. E. DRESSER, F. W. FROHAWK, F. GAYNER, E. HARTERT, G. E. LODGE, B. W. MARTIN, J. G. MILLAIS, H. MUNT, E. W. OATES, C. E. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., A. E. PRICE, R. H. READ, Hon. C. N. ROTHSCHILD, Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, M.P., A. D. SAPSWORTH, F. C. SELOUS, W. B. TEGETMEIER, H. M. WALLIS, CHAS. WHYMPER, SCOTT B. WILSON, H. F. WITHERBY, A. F. R. WOLLASTON.

Visitors: F. G. CANNON, Hon. A. N. CURZON, F. FINN.

A letter was read from Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE, Editor of the 'Bulletin,' regretting that departure for Norway precluded his attendance that evening.

Mr. DRESSER again exhibited the aberrant specimen of the red-faced *Emberiza citrinella* obtained by Mr. Montagu at Cambridge (*suprà*, p. 66), discussion on this specimen having been postponed at the last meeting at the request of several of the members. He also showed a specimen from the Yenesei which had the entire throat red as in true *E. leucocephala.*

Mr. Millais regarded the red-cheeked form as not so rare as supposed, and exhibited another British-killed specimen. Mr. Walter Rothschild showed several British examples from various localities, and mentioned having seen numbers of *E. leucocephala* in Italy. He also exhibited some males of *Emberiza citrinella,* to show that the chestnut moustachial streak or patch was only an individual and not very unfrequent character. None of the British specimens had the full red throat, with the exception of Mr. Montagu's specimen.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P., exhibited a new Woodpecker, which he described as follows:—

Chloronerpes litæ, n. sp.

♂. Differs from its nearest ally, *Chloronerpes leucolæmus,* in the following points:—The bases of the primaries are uniform chestnut. This colour increases in extent on the outer webs from the first to the last primary. Except on the innermost ones, this chestnut colour extends over the whole outer webs, while in *C. leucolæmus* all the outer webs are so widely edged with green that the chestnut is entirely hidden. The red on the crown and moustache is much darker blood-red, the greenish olive of the upper surface is darker. The cream-coloured feathers of the throat have lateral spots of deep greenish olive-brown. The chest has narrow central cream-coloured streaks, which widen out into roundish spots on the tip, while in *C. leucolæmus* these spots are quite round and not streak-like at all. Abdomen not regularly banded but marked more spotty. Wing 105 mm., tail 60, bill 20, metatarsus 15.

Type ♂: Lita, North Ecuador, 3000 feet high, September 12th, 1899. "Iris reddish brown. Feet bluish grey. Bill dark grey, more bluish grey underneath" (*R. Miketta*).

Mr. Rothschild further exhibited the real male of *Dacnis berlepschi,* Hart., described in the Bull. B. O. C. xi. p. 37.

It has a deep hyacinth-blue head, a light blue back with still lighter blue shaft-stripes, pale blue rump, blue breast, black tail and wings with dull blue edges, and a brilliant red breast, which merges into bright buff on the abdomen.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited and described :—

SYNALLAXIS OMISSA, n. sp.

♀. Differs from its nearest ally, *Synallaxis pudica*, in having a large black throat-patch without any white at all, and in wanting the rufous patch on the nape. The tail is very deep brown, almost black from above. Wing 60 mm., tail 67, metatarsus 20, bill 13.

Type: Pará, Brazil, July 19, 1897, Dr. J. B. Steere coll.

PYROMELANA FRANCISCANA PUSILLA, n. subsp.

Like typical *P. franciscana*, but considerably smaller. ♂ wing 60–63 mm. (instead of 65–68); ♀ 50 mm. (instead of 55).

Type ♂: Lake Stephanie, June 7, 1895; on the same date the paired female taken with eggs. Another male from Barri in Central Somaliland. All collected by Dr. Donaldson Smith.

Mr. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., reported that an Egyptian Goose had paired with a Ruddy Sheldrake in St. James's Park, and on the 27th of May hatched two young birds, which were doing well. Six eggs had been laid, three of which had disappeared during incubation and one was rotten.

Mr. FRANK FINN, of the Calcutta Museum, exhibited and made remarks upon some living species of Indian Weaver-birds.

Mr. C. E. PEARSON exhibited three abnormal pale blue eggs of *Larus ridibundus*, from the same nest.

Mr. H. MUNT exhibited some photographs of nests and sitting birds, among which an example of the Woodcock was of unusual merit.

Mr. E. C. SELOUS exhibited several nests with their eggs of *Sylvia ruepelli,* obtained by himself in the vicinity of Smyrna.

Mr. R. H. READ exhibited a nest of the Chaffinch, which appeared to have been placed upon the nest of a Bullfinch as a foundation.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited a head of a Rook in which the upper mandible had received an injury, but instead of becoming distorted and crossed, as was usually the case under such circumstances, the two mandibles had become prolonged symmetrically.

Mr. TEGETMEIER also remarked upon the unusual and excessive mortality this year among Pheasants from enteric disease (*not* gapes), probably owing to unexplained unsanitary conditions.

Dr. F. PENROSE suggested that it was desirable that, if possible, some notice of the subjects for discussion should be issued with the invitation cards, and the Chairman said that the subject would no doubt receive the attention of the Committee.

The Meeting adjourned until next October.

(Signed)

HOWARD SAUNDERS, *Vice-Chairman.*	HOWARD SAUNDERS, *Acting Editor.*	W. E. DE WINTON, *Sec. & Treas.*

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Birds

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

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R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

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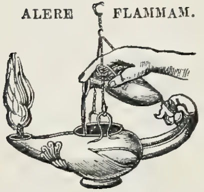
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PREFACE.

But few prefatory remarks are required from me. We have lost a few members, but have gained several recruits to the B. O. Union and the B. O. C. in 1902. The Rev. A. H. Macpherson was an excellent field-naturalist, and a warm supporter of the Club, by the Members of which he will be greatly missed.

The contributions from members of the Club and from friends in foreign countries have been as important as ever, and a large number of new species have been described at our monthly meetings.

I desire to acknowledge the true friendship and cooperation which I have received from all my brother members during the past year.

(Signed) R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

October 1*st*, 1902.

RULES

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

(*As amended 20th April,* 1898.)

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session, shall cease, *ipso facto,* to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. Members of the British Ornithologists' Union may be introduced as Visitors at the Meetings of the Club, but every Member of the Club who introduces a Member of the B. O. U. as a Visitor (to dinner or to the Meeting afterwards) shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer, *on each occasion.*

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription.* Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*; with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter Bye-laws.

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Yerbury, Colonel J. W.; Army and Navy Club, S.W.

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Ellison, Rev. Allan; Ardoyne House, Watton, Hertford.
Gillett, Frederick; Woodfield, Burgess Hill, Sussex.
Jones, Major H.; East Wickham House, Welling, Kent.
Riviere, Bernard B.; Flaxley, 82 Finchley Road, N.W.
Sargeaunt, Arthur St. George; 83 Madeley Road, Ealing, W.
Workman, William Hughes; Lismore, Windsor, Belfast.

[Members are requested to keep the Secretary informed of any changes in their addresses.]

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ERRATA.

Page 2, line 29, for "*Fringillaria impetuana*" read "*Fringillaria impetuani.*"
Page 57, line 14, for "*C. unappendiculatus*" read "*C. uniappendiculatus.*"

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXXII.

The eighty-first Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 23rd of October, 1901.

Chairman: Howard Saunders.

Members present:—Capt. Boyd Alexander, H. Ashby, E. Bidwell, Colonel C. T. Bingham, J. L. Bonhote, B. A. E. Buttress, A. F. Crossman, R. A. Crowley, F. Curtis, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, E. N. F. Fenwick, F. Gayner, F. H. Carruthers Gould, W. R. Ogilvie Grant, E. Hartert, Colonel A. P. Loyd, H. Munt, E. Neale, E. W. Oates, R. H. Read, C. B. Rickett, A. D. Sapsworth, H. Scherren, F. C. Selous, F. Sharman, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), Capt. G. E. Shelley, W. B. Tegetmeier, Major Horace Terry, A. Thorburn, N. F. Ticehurst, C. Whymper, L. A. Williams, Scott B. Wilson, H. F. Witherby, A. F. R. Wollaston.

Visitors: F. Coburn, J. C. Crowley, A. C. Curtis, W. L. Distant, C. E. Fagan, F. Carruthers Gould, Colonel Harris, F. Muir, R. F. Ratcliff.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe exhibited some specimens from a collection of birds presented to the British Museum by Colonel A. J. Sloggett, C.M.G., P.M.O., at Deelfontein, Cape Colony. These birds were collected by E. C. H. Seimund, the taxidermist of the Zoological Department, who, after serving for eighteen months with the Imperial Yeomanry in South Africa, was struck down with enteric fever and sent to the Hospital at Deelfontein, which is a station about 32 miles from De Aar. Dr. Sharpe reminded the Meeting of certain specimens exhibited by him to the B. O. C. on 16th of February, 1898, which had been procured by Mr. Lawrence Sowerby when serving with the forces in the Matabele campaign. These had all been procured by Mr. Sowerby, for lack of a gun and small shot, *with a Lee-Metford rifle.* Mr. Seimund, on becoming convalescent, set to work to obtain specimens for Colonel Sloggett, and, finding it impossible to obtain a proper collecting-gun and ammunition, was obliged to resort to a *catapult,* with which he obtained a good series of birds, as will be seen by the following list of species, which Dr. Sharpe thought might be useful for those interested in the geographical distribution of African birds :—

Pteroclurus namaqua, Œna capensis, Rhinoptilus bicinctus, Ægialitis tricollaris, Compsotis afra, Cerchneis rupicola, Caprimulgus sp. (pull.), *Tricholæma leucomelan, Hirundo albigularis, H. cucullata, Bradyornis mariquensis, Stenostira scita, Euryptila subcinnamomea, Erythropygia coryphæus, Myrmecocichla sinuata, Saxicola monticola, Eremomela flaviventris, Spiloptila ocularia, Lanius collaris, Parus afer, Cinnyris chalybeus, Motacilla capensis, Anthus rufulus, Alæmon nivosa, A. semitorquata, Certhilauda rufula, Passer arcuatus, Serinus albigularis, Fringillaria impetuana, F. capensis, Pyrrhocheira caffra, Heterocorax capensis.*

Dr. SHARPE communicated the following notes on some apparently new species of birds from West Africa :—

1. TURDINUS BATESI, n. sp.

♀ *ad.* Notæo fulvescenti-brunneo, uropygio et supracaudalibus rufescentioribus et distinctè ferrugineis : gutture, pectore et abdomine pure albis : corporis lateribus et subcaudalibus fulvescentibus : pileo et plaga auriculari nigris: loris et supercilio lato usque ad latera colli producto cinereis. Long. tot. 6·1 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·0, caudæ 2·2, tarsi 1·1.

Hab. Efulen, Cameroons (*G. W. Bates*). Como River, 60 miles from Gaboon (*G. W. Bates*). R. Congo (*Petit*: *Mus. Brit.*).

Obs. A species easily distinguished from all the other African members of the genus by its black head and grey eyebrow.

2. **Turdinus cerviniventris**, n. sp.

Turdinus fulvescens, partim, auct. recent. (nec Cass.).

♂. Similis *T. fulvescenti*, Cass., sed corpore subtus cervino-brunneo, abdomine vix pallidiore: gula albida, griseo obscure striata: subcaudalibus cervinis, vix rufescentibus. Long. tot. 6·7 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 2·95, caudæ 2·6, tarsi 0·95.

Hab. Conde, Congo (*Petit*), Chissambo (*Petit*), Yambuya, Aruwhimi River (*Jameson*), Como River, Gaboon (*G. L. Bates*), Jaunde, Camaroons (*Zenker*).

Obs. The true *T. fulvescens*, Cass., of which the Museum contains two co-types, is a white-bellied species. Cassin appears to have confused two distinct species under the heading of *T. fulvescens,* as he observes: "In some specimens the entire underparts are dull reddish fulvous." These would be the new *T. cerviniventris.*

3. **Scops holerythra**, n. sp.

Similis *S. icterorhynchæ*, Shelley, sed ubique cinnamomea, maculis albis scapularibus nullis, tectricibus alarum quoque albo haud maculatis: subtus læte cinnamomea, maculis longitudinalibus albis notata, sed minime fusco-vermiculata. Long. tot. 8·5 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 5·5, caudæ 2·9, tarsi 1·05.

Hab. Efulen, Kamerun.

4. **Hapaloderma æquatoriale**, n. sp.

Similis *H. narinæ*, sed minor: alæ fasciis vermiculatis nigris fortissime indicatis. Long. tot. 10·5 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 4·7, caudæ 5·8, tarsi 0·65.

Hab. Efulen, Kamerun.

5. Alethe alexandri, n. sp.

Similis *A. castanonotæ*, sed facie laterali nigra nec saturate brunnea distinguenda. Long. tot. 7·0 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 3·6, caudæ 2·2, tarsi 1·05.

Hab. Efulen, Kamerun.

6. Callene cyornithopsis, n. sp.

Rufescenti-brunnea, uropygio paullo rufescentiore et supracaudalibus ferrugineis: alis dorso concoloribus, remigibus sepiariis extus rufescenti-brunneis: rectricibus brunneis, versus basin ferrugineo marginatis: pileo et collo postico fuscescenti-brunneis, vix olivaceo tinctis: loris et supercilio indistincto cinereis: facie laterali cinerascente, brunneo lavata et fulvo striolata: genis, gutture toto, pectore et corporis lateribus aurantiaco-rufis, his brunneo lavatis: pectore imo et abdomine pure albis: subcaudalibus albis, rufo vix lavatis: tibiis cinereis: subalaribus pallide aurantiacis, remigibus intus fulvescenti-albo marginatis. Long. tot. 5·5 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 2·8, caudæ 2·0, tarsi 0·95.

Hab. Efulen, Kamerun.

Obs. A species apparently with no close ally.

Dr. Sharpe also exhibited a specimen of an apparently new species of *Picumnus* from British Guiana, which he described as

Picumnus macconnelli, n. sp.

P. similis *P. steindachneri*, sed brunneus: gutture et præpectore nigris albo transfasciatis et punctatis: abdomine et corporis lateribus nigris albo fasciatis. Long. tot. 3·7 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·1, caudæ 1·1, tarsi 0·55.

Hab. British Guiana (*F. V. McConnell*).

Obs. The brown colour of the back, the extension of the black up to the chin, and the banding on the breast and flanks, where the white bands are narrower than the black ones, serve to distinguish this species. In *P. steindachneri* the back is grey and the chin is also ashy.

Count von Berlepsch sent for exhibition some specimens of rare South-American Owls and made the following observations:—

"1. Pulsatrix pulsatrix (Wied).

"This Brazilian species, which has been united with

P. perspicillata (Lath.) by Dr. Bowdler Sharpe and others, is apparently quite a different bird. The difference from *P. perspicillata* (i. e. *P. torquata*) has already been pointed out by the late Prof. Schlegel (Mus. Pays-Bas, *Striges*, p. 1 & note), where he remarks as follows :—' Très-voisine de la *S. perspicillata*, mais d'une taille un peu plus forte et à teintes plus pâles.'

" In a paper on the birds of Rio Grande do Sul, written in company with Dr. von Ihering, I have also alluded to these differences (*cf.* Berl. & Ihering, Zeitschr. ges. Orn. 1885, p. 166). I have now in my collection two skins from Santa Catharina, and have seen others from there, which fully confirm the distinctness existing between *P. pulsatrix* and *P. perspicillata*. The former is a larger bird, and differs decidedly in its coloration as follows :—The upper parts of the body, including the head and the upperside of the wings and tail, as well as the throat and breast, are of a much lighter brown, being light chocolate instead of blackish brown, and this coloration is quite uniform in shade, while in *P. perspicillata* the head and the upper parts of the back are always much blacker than the remaining portions. The abdomen, on the contrary, is of a much darker fulvous brown, while in *P. perspicillata* it is of a pale ochraceous buff. The white patch on the jugulum is but slightly indicated, and is more of a fulvous white instead of being pure white. The superciliary stripe is not extended beyond the eyes and is by no means so conspicuous, being rusty white, as are also the hair-like plumes on the sides of the head, while in *P. perspicillata* all these parts are almost pure white. The tail is nearly uniform, the darker bands on the apical third of the under surface of the rectrices being but slightly indicated, while on *S. perspicillata* the tail-feathers underneath show conspicuous whitish and blackish bands and a whitish apical border, altogether wanting on *P. pulsatrix*.

" *P. pulsatrix*, Sta. Catharina : al. 355, 336 mm., caud. 215, 210, culm. 34, 32 ; tars. ·65 cm.

" *P. perspicillata*, Eastern Ecuador : al. 320 mm., caud. 181, 176, culm. 30, 27 ; tars. ·55 cm.

"2. Pulsatrix sharpei, Berl., n. sp.

"*Athene melanonota*, Pelz. (nec Tschudi), Orn. Bras. p. 9.

"*Syrnium melanonotum*, Sharpe (nec Tschudi), Cat. Birds Brit. Mus. ii. p. 280.

"*Ciccaba melanonota*, Tacz. (nec Tschudi), Orn. du Pérou, i. p. 184.

"*P. melanonotæ* (Tsch.) affinis et digitis quoque penitus nudis, sed major et coloribus diversa: abdomine fulvo fasciis obsoletis brunneis vix conspicue variegato (nec albo fasciis rufo-brunneis regulariter transfasciato): corpore superiore pallidius chocolatino-brunneo (nec nigro-brunneo), plaga jugulari, stria superciliari plumisque ad rostri basin fulvescentibus nec pure albis, necnon fasciis rectricum albis latioribus distinguenda.

"*Habitat* in Brasilia orientali.

"*Typus* in Mus. Hans von Berlepsch: ad Prov. Espiritu Santo (*F. B. Müller* legit).

"*Ad.* Espiritu Santo: al. 307, caud. 192, culm. 23¾, tars. (55) mm.

"*Ad.* Brazil: al. 312, caud. 200, culm. 26½, tars. (50) mm.

"*P. melanonota* from Peru: al. 290, 275, caud. 177, 160, culm. 25, 23, tars. 50, 47 mm.

"Having before me three specimens of the true *P. melanonota*, Tschudi, collected near La Gloria, Chanchamayo, by J. Kalinowski, and near Cuzco by O. Garlepp, agreeing perfectly with the description and figure given by its describer, J. J. v. Tschudi, and at the same time two specimens from Eastern Brazil, one of them being received directly from the Province of Espiritu Santo, I can now affirm positively that the Brazilian bird, while agreeing with true *P. melanonota* from Peru in having naked toes, is otherwise totally different and must receive another name. I have great pleasure in naming it after my old friend Dr. Sharpe, who agrees with me that the Brazilian form is quite different and is at present unnamed.

"*P. sharpei*, besides being a larger bird, differs from *P. melanonota* in several points of coloration, viz., by the belly being pale fulvous brown, with obsolete indications of darker rufous-brown bands, while in *P. melanonota* the belly is pure white with broad regular bands of dark brown. The upper parts in *P. sharpei* are chocolate-brown, while they are of a more blackish brown in the other species. The pale patch in the middle of the chest, the superciliary stripe, and the hair-like plumes at the base of the bill are fulvescent on the former, being of a nearly pure white in the Peruvian species. Also in the new species the white bands on the tail-feathers are somewhat broader.

"I may remark that Dr. Sharpe's description of *S. melanonotum* in the Cat. of Brit. Mus. ii. p. 280 is evidently based on Brazilian specimens (*P. sharpei*, mihi).

"Taczanowski, in his Orn. du Pérou (i. p. 184), has also described a Brazilian specimen belonging to my collection under the name of *C. melanonota*.

"As far as I can see from Count Salvadori's description of his *Pulsatrix fasciativentris* from Zamora, Ecuador (Salvad. & Festa, Bullet. Mus. Zool. Torino, 1900, p. 32), this also belongs to the true *P. melanonota* (Tsch.), Salvadori having also probably compared his Ecuadorian skins with the Brazilian species.

"Genus GISELLA.

"I have in my collection a specimen of *Gisella* (marked ♂) collected near Blumenau, Sta. Catharina, by Mr. Carl Lehl, received direct from the collector. There is scarcely any doubt that this bird belongs to *Gisella iheringi* described by Dr. Sharpe from a specimen sent from São Paulo by Dr. von Ihering.

"Nevertheless I have some doubt regarding the distinctness of the species from *G. harrisi*, Cass., of Colombia, as my bird does not exhibit all the characters pointed out in the diagnosis given by Dr. Sharpe. There are, of course, some few whitish spots on the upper tail-coverts, which is not a very significant character, but there is no trace of a black band on the throat, and the lores as well as the spot at the end of the ear-coverts are rather brownish black (like the pileum), instead of "nigerrimæ." Certainly these parts are not blacker than they are represented in Cassin's figure. I may also remark that in this figure there are shown some black spots on the throat. The black throat-band found in the type of *G. iheringi* might therefore be regarded as an individual character.

"I have another specimen of *Gisella* (marked ♀), collected by M. O. Garlepp near Cuzco (C. Peru). This differs from my Santa Catharina specimen in being rather larger, in having the pileum, the ear-spot, and the lores of a pure black (instead of chocolate-brown), in having the back of a much darker brown (nearly blackish brown in lieu of bistre-brown), in presenting a blackish spot in the middle of the chin, and in having much larger blackish spots at the end of the plumes which form part of the lower part of the veil, also in having four white bands on the tail-feathers, instead of three consisting of a pair of rounded spots, as shown in the Santa Catharina bird.

"The difference in size of the two birds might be accounted for, they being of different sexes. Unfortunately I have not got specimens of true *G. harrisi*, Cass., which, described with no certain locality, has been stated by Hartlaub to have been received from Bogotá (Colombia); but I have little doubt that an actual comparison with specimens from Colombia will show that *G. iheringi* is the same as *G. harrisi* and that this species has a range of larger extension than has been anticipated.

"*Gisella* ♂, Blumenau: al. 144, caud. 70½, culm. 16½, tars. (27) mm.

"*Gisella* ♀, Acobamba, Cuzco: al. 167, caud. 83, culm. 18¾, tars. (30) mm.

"Genus MEGASCOPS.

"*M. brasilianus* of authors, but not of Gmelin, should stand as *M. choliba* (Vieill.)!

"The name '*brasilianus*' generally employed for the common South American species of *Megascops* cannot longer be used for it, as the *Strix brasiliana*, Gml. (Syst. Nat. ed. xiii. 1, p. 289), being based exclusively on Marcgrave's

'Caburé Brasiliensibus,' does not apply to it, but certainly to *Glaucidium ferox* (Vieill.)!

"There is not the slightest doubt that Marcgrave's description refers to the *Glaucidium* which is known in Brazil under the name of 'Caburé,' and all descriptions of subsequent authors cited by Gmelin are simply copied from that of Marcgrave.

"The error has evidently arisen from the fact that Brisson makes a 'Hibou' of Marcgrave's 'Caburé,' and that Buffon, having never examined the bird himself ('Marcgrave est le seul qui ait decrit cet oiseau'), says 'L'oiseau Caburé ou Cabouré par les Indiens du Brésil qui a des *aigrettes des plumes sur la tête*,' while Marcgrave makes no mention of ear-tufts. Latham, following these authors, calls it the 'Brazilian *Eared* Owl'; but his description is taken from the same source, viz., that of Marcgrave, as is also the diagnosis given by Gmelin himself.

"It follows that the common South American *Megascops* ought to be called *M. choliba* (Vieill.), 1817, ex Azara (typ. ex Paraguay), and that the *Glaucidium* otherwise called *G. ferox* (Vieill.) ought to bear the name *G. brasiliense* (Gml.), 1788, ex Marcgrave (typ. ex Brasil or.).

"Regarding *Megascops choliba*, I may remark that the typical form occurring from Paraguay through Bolivia and Eastern Péru to Colombia (and perhaps through Central America to Mexico) has a distinct rufous (fox-red) phase and also a dark rufous-brown one. I have in my collection fox-red birds from Paraguay, Upper Amazons, and Colombia (Bogotá).

"The eastern forms seem to have no fox-red phases. There is a large race from Southern Brazil (Sta. Catharina and Rio Grande do Sul), named by Mr. Salvin *S. santa-catarinæ*. In size it hardly differs from true *M. choliba* of Paraguay and Bolivia, but in the pattern of the plumage there are some slight discrepancies. It has a dark blackish-brown phase and a lighter rufous-brown one. It should stand as *M. choliba santa-catarinæ* (Salv.).

"Another form occurring in the environs of Bahia, of smaller dimensions and with a distinct greyish-brown phase and a darker rufous-brown one, might be distinguished as *M. choliba decussata* (Licht.), 1823 (typ. ex Bahia).

"I may also remark that *Scops usta,* Sclater (Tr. Z. S. iv. 1858, p. 265), is most probably a synonym of *Ephialtes watsoni,* Cass. Proc. Ac. N. Sc. Philad. iv. (1848) p. 123."

Captain Boyd Alexander made some remarks on his collections of birds made during his recent residence on the Gold Coast, when serving with the British Expedition against Ashanti. The following species were believed to be new to science:—

1. Pœocephalus kintampoensis, n. sp.

♀ *ad.* Most nearly allied to *P. fuscicollis* (Kuhl), but differing in having the underparts, rump, and upper tail-coverts bright *bluish*-green instead of *grass*-green; the wing-coverts, secondaries, and feathers of the back olive-brown, strongly washed with verditer. Bill stronger than in *P. fuscicollis.* Tip of lower mandible ·05 in., width of lower mandible 1·0, width of upper mandible 1·0. Total length (in flesh) 12·2 in., wing 8·5, tail 4·3, tarsus 0·8.

Hab. Kintampo, Gold Coast Hinterland, 7 Dec., 1900.

2. Glaucidium albiventer, n. sp.

♀ *ad.* Similar to *G. perlatum* (Vieill.), but with the breast, abdomen, and under tail-coverts pure white; the feathers of the flanks with only a few streaks of brownish black. Total length (in flesh) 8·2 inches, wing 4·5, tail 3·5, tarsus 0·98.

Hab. Kwobia, Gold Coast Hinterland, 11 May, 1901.

3. Crateropus stictilæma, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Most nearly allied to *C. reinwardti,* Swains., but differing in having the cheeks dark ashy in place of jet-black, and shading gradually into the pale colouring of the throat, instead of being sharply defined, while the mottling of the throat extends up to the chin. Total length (in flesh) 9·5 inches, wing 4·7, tail 5·2, tarsus 1·3.

Hab. From the Gold Coast to the Niger.

4. Indicator willcocksi, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Most nearly allied to *I. exilis* (Cass.), but slightly larger. Upper parts golden olive striped with blackish centres to the feathers, almost uniform on crown and nape, the blackish centres becoming more strongly marked on the back; no dusky band below the cheeks and ear-coverts; sides of neck and underparts ashy olive, fading into creamy white on the lower breast and abdomen; wing and centre tail-feathers black, edged with golden yellow. Total length (in flesh) 4·5 inches, wing 2·6, tail 2, tarsus 0·4.

Hab. Prahou, Gold Coast Colony, 6 Aug., 1900. Named in honour of Sir James Willcocks, K.C.B.

5. Alseonax gambagæ, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Most nearly allied to *A. murinus* (Fischer & Reich.), but larger, and differing in the following characters:—General colour above light brown, marginal and under wing-coverts white; underparts white, tinted with brown on the lower throat and sides of chest, where there are a few obscure brown shaft-stripes. Total length (in flesh) 4·7 inches, wing 3, tail 2·4, tarsus 0 5.

Hab. Gambaga, Gold Coast Hinterland, 27 April, 1901.

The following rare and little known species, forming part of the collection, which numbered nearly 1100 specimens, were also exhibited:—

Anthreptes idius (Oberhols); *Salpornis salvadorii* (Bocage), not before obtained on the West Coast; *Heliocorys modesta,* Heugl.; *Mirafra erythropygia* (Strick.); *Pyrrhulauda otoleuca,* Temm.; *Emberiza affinis,* Salvad.; *Emberiza cabanisi* (Reichen.); *Estrelda capistrata,* Hartl.; *Lagonosticta nigricollis,* Heugl.; *Lanius gubernator* (Hartl.); *Andropadus minor,* Bocage; *Criniger albigularis* (Sharpe); *Pholidornis rushiæ* (Cass.); *Apalis nigriceps,* Shelley; *Orthotomus erythropterus* (Jard.); *Cossypha giffardi,* Hart.; *Bessonornis gambagæ,* Hart.; *Cassinia finschi,* Sharpe; *Hyliota flavigastra,* Swains.; *Hyliota nehrkorni,* Hartl.; *Chætura ussheri,* Sharpe; *Indicator stictithorax,* Reichen.; *Dryotriorchis spectabilis* (Schl.); *Francolinus albogularis,* Gray; *Otis senegalensis,* Vieill.

Captain Alexander described the females of the following species, which were previously unknown:—

Lagonosticta nigricollis, Heugl.

♀ *ad.* General colour hair-brown, with a tinge of French grey on the crown; upper tail-coverts dull crimson like the centre tail-feathers; remainder of the tail-feathers black, externally dull crimson; sides of face and under surface of body isabelline, shading into buff on the flanks and abdomen, with a few tiny white spots on the sides of the body; upper mandible slaty black, the lower one slate-colour; feet dark brown; iris brown. Total length (in flesh) 4·0 inches, culmen 0·4, wing 1·9, tail 1·7, tarsus 0·5.

Apalis nigriceps, Shelley.

♀ *ad.* Similar in dimensions to the male. Crown of head blackish slate-colour, not entirely black; chin and throat white tinged with buff; the black collar on the fore-neck narrower.

Mr. Hartert exhibited a new race of a Wren from the Orinoko River, which he, in company with Count Berlepsch, described as follows:—

Thryophilus albipectus hypoleucus, Berlp. & Hart., n. subsp.

T. Thr. albipectus dicto simillimus, sed gastræo fere omnino albo, hypochondriis crissoque solummodo rufescenti-olivaceo tinctis, notæo quoque pallidiore, minus brunnescente.

Habitat in regione centrali fluminis Orinocensis. Typus in Mus. Rothsch. Tring, ♂ Altagracia 6. i. 1898, no. 9550, Cherrie coll.

Mr. Ernst Hartert described the following new forms, and exhibited their types together with the nearest allies:—

Nigrita dohertyi, n. sp.

Like *N. emiliæ* from W. Africa, but darker, more slaty above, and the white edges to the upper wing-coverts wider, more spot-like. Size as in *N. emiliæ*.

This form differs much from *N. schistacea*, Sharpe (of which Reichenow's *N. sparsimguttata* may or may not be a synonym), in the less rounded white spots to the wing-coverts, which, moreover, are also developed on the longest wing-coverts and tips of the inner secondaries, where they are entirely absent in *N. sparsimguttata* and *N. schistacea.*

Mr. Hartert was inclined to consider *N. dohertyi* a subspecies of *N. emiliæ*, and *N. schistacea* (*sparsimguttata*) a subspecies of *N. canicapilla.*

The late William Doherty obtained a series of the new form of *Nigrita* which bears his name at the Mau Escarpment, in British East Africa, at an elevation of 8500 feet.

CISTICOLA NEUMANNI, n. sp.

Very similar to *C. prinioides*, Neumann (*C. procera*, Jackson, nec Peters), but darker on the whole of the under surface; abdomen without a well-defined whitish line along the middle; back also slightly darker, the blackish centres to the feathers being more conspicuous.

Hab. Mount Kenya, Mackinder coll. (Type no. 46, Mackinder coll.; Tring Museum.)

The differences of this new form were first pointed out to me by Mr. Oscar Neumann, in whose honour it is named. It is hardly more than subspecifically distinct, and is closely allied to *C. hunteri*, Shelley, which is still darker above, especially on the crown. These and *C. prinioides* are apparently all races of one species.

Colonel G. RIPPON sent for exhibition some birds from the Kauri-Kachin tract, to the east of Bhamo, and bordering on the south of the Tapeng River. Two species appeared to be undescribed :—

TROCHALOPTERUM SHARPEI, n. sp.

T. similis *T. milni*, sed regione paroticâ pallidè cinereâ, minimè alba distinguendum. Long. tot. 11·5 poll., culm. 1·2, alæ 4·1, caudæ 4·7, tarsi 1·5.

DRYONASTES KAURENSIS, n. sp.

D. similis *D. subcæruleato*, et rectricibus albo terminatis, sed regione paroticâ rufescenti-brunneâ, notæo concolore et minimè alba distinguendus. Long. tot. 11·3 poll., culm. 1·05, alæ 4.1, caudæ 4·55, tarsi 1·6.

Mr. Ogilvie Grant exhibited examples of the Finch-Larks (*Pyrrhulauda*) which had been collected by Mr. R. M. Hawker on the White Nile. The great point of interest in these birds was the fact that they represented two closely allied, but perfectly distinct, species, which, for want of material, had been united in the 'Catalogue of Birds' (*cf.* vol. iii. p. 637). The males of one of these species, *P. leucotis* (Stanley), were characterized by having the bill dusky, the white band across the nape narrow, the chestnut upper parts darker, and *the lesser wing-coverts black.* In the second species, *P. otoleuca* (Temm.), which was new to the British Museum, the male had the bill white, the white band across the nape wide, the chestnut of the upper parts paler, and *the lesser wing-coverts dirty white.* These differences were also apparent in quite young birds. The name of *Alauda melanocephala*, Licht., if synonymous with *P. otoleuca* (Temm.), will have to be substituted for the latter.

Mr. Hawker obtained his specimens of *P. leucotis* 20 miles north of Fashoda, and those of *P. otoleuca* at Khartoum. The former appears to be the Eastern representative, the latter the Western, as it is known to range to Senegal.

Mr. Tegetmeier exhibited the egg of an Australian Crane, being one of four pairs laid during the present year by a hen in the possession of the Rev. Hubert Astley; and the tarsi of a mature hen Pheasant, in which the tarsal bones had become expanded at the lower extremities in consequence of the amputation of the feet by a mowing-machine.

Mr. F. Coburn exhibited a large series of specimens of birds collected by himself in Northern Iceland during the summer of 1899. The most interesting species was the American Wigeon (*Mareca americana*), which was found breeding by Mr. Coburn in two districts, and adult males and females and nestlings were exhibited. A fine series of young birds in different stages of growth, from the nestling upwards, illustrated the progress of the plumage in the following

species:—Barrow's Golden-eye (*Clangula islandica*), Wigeon (*Mareca penelope*), American Wigeon, Scaup (*Fuligula marila*), Mallard (*Anas boscas*), Long-tailed Duck (*Harelda glacialis*), Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*), Eider Duck (*Somateria mollissima*), Gadwall (*Chaulelasmus streperus*), Black Scoter (*Œdemia nigra*), Red-breasted Merganser (*Merganser serrator*), Iceland Jerfalcon (*Hierofalco islandus*), Arctic Tern (*Sterna macrura*), Rock-Ptarmigan (*Lagopus rupestris*), Purple Sandpiper (*Arquatella maritima*), Whimbrel (*Numenius phæopus*), Golden Plover (*Charadrius pluvialis*), Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus hyperboreus*), Slavonian Grebe (*Dytes auritus*), Red-throated Diver (*Colymbus septentrionalis*), Hornemann's Redpoll (*Cannabina hornemanni*).

Mr. Coburn also exhibited some British examples of the following birds:—a Lesser White-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*), shot near King's Lynn, Norfolk, in 1900; a very black-breasted example of the White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*), shot in Co. Mayo in the spring of 1901; Holboell's Redpoll (*Cannabina holboelli*) from Achill Island; and the Red-throated Pipit (*Anthus cervinus*), also from Achill, where it was shot by Mr. Coburn himself.

Mr. Byatt sent for exhibition the nest and egg of the Lesser Redpoll (*Cannabina rufescens*) taken near Midhurst in Sussex.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 20th of November, 1901, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

Howard Saunders, R. Bowdler Sharpe, W. E. de Winton,
Chairman. *Editor.* *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXXIII.

The eighty-second Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of November, 1901.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—Capt. Boyd Alexander, H. Ashby, E. Bidwell, B. A. E. Buttress, A. F. Crossman, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, F. W. Frohawk, C. Garnett, F. Gayner, J. Gerrard, H. Goodchild, F. H. Carruthers Gould, E. Hartert, W. H. Hudson, G. E. Lodge, E. S. Montagu, H. Munt, R. Nesham, E. W. Oates, H. J. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, M.D., E. Lort Phillips, T. Digby Pigott, C.B., A. E. Price, W. P. Pycraft, R. H. Read, C. B. Rickett, Hon. N. C. Rothschild, Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P., A. D. Sapsworth, H. Saunders, H. Scherren, F. C. Selous, F. Sharman, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), E. Cavendish Taylor, W. B. Tegetmeier, Archibald Thorburn, N. F. Ticehurst, Chas. Whymper, J. Wilkinson, Scott B. Wilson, H. F. Witherby, A. F. R. Wollaston.

Visitors: C. Christy, M.D., F. Coburn, H. Druce, F. Gillett, E. Williamson.

Dr. Sclater gave a short account of a five weeks' journey he had recently made to Smyrna and Constantinople, going out by Marseilles and returning overland by the Orient Express, stopping a few days at Buda-Pesth and Vienna. Little in the ornithological line could be done, of course, during such a hasty tour, which was, in fact, taken for the express purpose of rest from ordinary work, but some points of interest might be mentioned. On visiting the ruins of Ephesus on Oct. 12th, it was found that the Storks, which breed there in great numbers on the pillars of the ruined aqueduct that crossed the valley of the Cayster, had all departed, but from 20 to 30 nests were counted.

At Smyrna the Redbreast (*Erithacus rubecula*), which is said to be a regular winter visitant there, had just arrived. It was seen in a garden at Bournabat, on Oct. 13th, and Dr. Sclater was informed that it always appeared about the beginning of that month and departed early in April, but was never known to nest there, and that it was just as tame and familiar in Smyrna as in England. The same story was told him at Constantinople, where the Redbreast frequents the gardens on the Asiatic side of the Bosphorus in winter.

The Turkish Government, as was well known, did not recognize Science of any kind, and there was nothing in the shape of a museum at Constantinople except a collection of antiquities. But in the excellent American Institution called "Robert College," near Bebek on the Bosphorus, there was a good collection of the birds of the vicinity of Constantinople, which Dr. Sclater had had an opportunity of examining by the kind permission of Dr. Washburn, the President of the College. Dr. Sclater had visited this collection when it was in its infancy, 26 years before (see Ibis, 1876, p. 60). It now consisted of from 700 to 800 mounted specimens, and had been formed under the direction of the late Dr. Albert L. Long, Vice-President of the College, at various points on both sides of the Bosphorus. Unfortunately the exact localities had not been affixed to the labels, but some of the more interesting species were as follows:—

Turdus iliacus.
—— torquatus alpestris.
Monticola saxatilis.
—— cyanus.
Regulus cristatus.
Cossypha gutturalis.
Cinclus aquaticus.
Ampelis garrulus.
Sitta cæsia.
—— krueperi.
—— syriaca.
Muscicapa grisola.
—— atricapilla.
—— albicollis.
Muscicapa parva.
Loxia curvirostra.
Carpodacus erythrinus.
Metoponia pusilla.
Coccothraustes vulgaris.
Fregilus graculus.
Alauda arborea.
Otocorys pencillata.
Cypselus melba.
Picus martius.
Gecinus canus.
Coccystes glandarius.
Tetraogallus caspius.

Coming home by the Orient Express, Dr. Sclater had stopped at Buda-Pesth and Vienna and had been most hospitably received by the naturalists in both those cities.

At Buda-Pesth he had found the large collection of some 40,000 bird-skins in the National Hungarian Museum, under the care of Dr. Julius v. Madarász, in excellent order. The series of Palæarctic species was particularly rich, and there were likewise many rarities from New Guinea, collected by Fennichel and Biro. He had likewise admired the mounted series illustrative of the Hungarian Ornis. In Vienna he had examined the well-known collection, under the care of Dr. Steindachner and Dr. v. Lorenz-Liburnau, in the Imperial Museum of Natural History.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild exhibited a number of Central Asiatic Pheasants and described two new species, remarking as follows:—

"Mr. Ogilvie-Grant in the twenty-second volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds' (p. 332) places, as a synonym of *Phasianus torquatus*, *Phasianus colchicus* var. *mongolicus*, Pallas, while (p. 328) he allows the name *Phasianus mongolicus* to stand for the Pheasant described by Brandt in the 'Bulletin' of the St. Petersburg Academy, vol. iii. p. 51 (1844). It is, however, an invariable rule in Zoology that no name can be used twice in the same genus, and as Pallas's name dates from 1811, it undoubtedly has the priority. Therefore

Brandt's Pheasant requires a new name. I propose to call it *Phasianus brandti.*

"I also exhibit to-night a bird bred at Tring, between a male of this *Phasianus brandti* and a hen of the ordinary mongrel breed of Pheasant kept in England for sporting purposes. I wish to point out that, although only hatched in June last, this bird has the size and perfect plumage of an ordinary two-year-old cock Pheasant, and is most like the male parent in appearance.

"I also propose the following names for two apparently new species:—

"PHASIANUS BEREZOWSKYI, n. sp.

"This form is nearest to *P. strauchi* from the same country, but differs conspicuously in having the feathers of the chest and breast of a bright shining golden-brown colour, narrowly margined with steel-blue, while the flanks are paler glistening buff golden-brown, each feather with a broad tip of steel-blue instead of the brilliant brownish red which pervades the feathers of the breast and flanks in *Phasianus strauchi,* these plumes being bordered with metallic oily green. The scapulars also differ in being whiter, less vermiculated with black, while their broad borders are more buffy rufous and less chestnut than in *P. strauchi.* The feathers of the hind-neck and mantle are buffy yellowish brown, not fiery orange, and have a very large apical central blotch of blackish green, while in *P. strauchi* this is merely a small narrow wedge-like streak. Lower rump more bluish; tail whitish grey instead of yellowish grey, washed with rufous; throat and neck oily green washed with blue, and sharply cut off from the brown of the chest. Wing 235 mm., tail about 52 cm. (worn).

"*Hab.* Hui-Tsian, Kansu, N.W. China (*Berezowsky*).

"PHASIANUS HAGENBECKI, n. sp.

"This species is somewhat allied to *Phasianus torquatus,* Gm., but differs in the following points:—The scapulars are paler rufous buff instead of dark bright chocolate-rufous or maroon-chocolate, as in *P. torquatus.* The flanks and breast are much paler, as are also the feathers of the hind-neck and mantle. The crown is clear chromium-green instead of olive-green; the superciliary stripe is twice as broad and snow-white instead of greenish buffy white. The most striking difference, however, is in the feathers of the upper rump and lower back. In *P. torquatus* these have a sub-terminal, oval, transverse, and narrow bar of green, then one of buffy grey, then a more or less interrupted one of black, and, lastly, a black longitudinal centre with the pale space on each side vermiculated with black. In *P. hagenbecki* these feathers have a creamy-white ground-colour, two green entire transverse sub-terminal bands, and then two smoky-black transverse bars across the middle portion of the feather. This gives the lower back and rump a much more mottled appearance in *P. hagenbecki*, which has also the lower and greater wing-coverts clearer blue-grey. The front of the neck and the sides are oily green instead of purplish blue washed with oily green. Wing 26 cm., tail 51 cm.

" *Hab.* Kobdo Valley, N.W. Mongolia.

" I must now revert to *Phasianus torquatus*, Gm. I find on examination two decidedly marked races of this Pheasant, which will apparently have to stand as follows:—

" PHASIANUS TORQUATUS, Gm. South China.

" PHASIANUS TORQUATUS MONGOLICUS (Pall.). N.E. Mongolia, Amur, and Corea.

" This latter form differs from typical *P. torquatus* in several particulars. The crown and occiput are olive-brown instead of olive-green; the superciliary stripes are very broad, uniting on the forehead, and of a brownish buff colour mixed with buffy white, instead of greenish whitish buff; the hind-neck and mantle have the feathers darker, more golden buff, with a nearly complete green collar below the white ring, this collar being absent in the typical form. The flanks are darker buff, the breast-feathers having the violet borders much narrower or almost obsolete. The rump is brownish olive instead of greenish lavender-blue, the sides of rump being more of a dirty orange colour. The broad borders of the scapulars are duller chocolate-red.

"The Corean bird may prove to be a third subspecies, as some birds have very pale flanks; but I do not, as yet, possess any specimens, and have seen too few examples to decide the question."

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD also exhibited examples of, and described, the following new species from Isabel, Solomon Islands:—

PITTA ANERYTHRA, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Crown chestnut, darkest along the middle, shading off to yellowish brown on the nape. Sides of head, lores, a narrow line above the eyes, and a broad band round the hind-neck, encircling the crown, deep black; a few feathers on the chin also blackish. Upper surface from the hind-neck to the tail dark olive-green. Primaries black, the fourth to the sixth with a white median bar of varying extent, sometimes occupying only one, sometimes both webs; inner primaries with olive tips and olive-green edges to the outer webs near the tip. Lesser wing-coverts very pale metallic blue, the next series with metallic tips of a very light green. Rectrices dark olive-green, black towards the base. Upper tail-coverts black, with glossy tips of pale blue; the adjoining feathers of the lower rump with glossy bluish-green tips; chin blackish, followed by a white throat-patch; all the remainder of the under surface ochraceous buff, darkest on the chest, without any red or black. "Iris dark brown, feet light bluish-slate, bill black." Wing about 100 to 105 mm., tail 38, metatarsus 45, culmen 29 mm.

Hab. Isabel Island, Solomon Islands. Mr. Albert S. Meek obtained two males in moult in July 1901.

Obs. This *Pitta* is very different from all the known forms of the genus. The nearest ally is apparently *Pitta strepitans* from Australia, which has, however, the abdomen and under tail-coverts black and red, with a black throat and black line on the crown. It is also much larger in size. *Pitta* is a genus quite new to the Solomon Islands.

CEYX MEEKI, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Bill black. Crown and sides of head black, with tiny brilliant ultramarine-blue dots near the tips of the feathers and with a longitudinal blue mark behind the eye; on the right and left above the bill and on each side of the neck are buffy-yellow patches; a broad band from the ear-coverts to the sides of the breast and along the flanks, black. Back black, with a broad line of glossy turquoise-blue along the centre, becoming darker and more cobalt-blue on the upper tail-coverts; wings brownish black, the quills yellowish buff towards the base of the inner webs, the secondaries narrowly margined with dull blue externally. Wing-coverts black, with ultramarine-blue apical spots. Under surface chrome-yellow, somewhat more buffy on the breast and flanks; under wing-coverts yellow, with a black line across the middle of this area; tail black. Wing 60 to 61 mm., tail 26, metatarsus 10, bill 30 and 37. "Iris dark brown. Feet light pale yellow, bill black."

♀. Like the male, but with the underside as well as the patches on the forehead and neck darker and more ochraceous.

Hab. Isabel Island, Solomon Islands (*A. S. Meek Coll.*).

Obs. This beautiful species differs from all forms of the *C. lepida*-group (to which also *Ceyx sacerdotis* and allies belong) in its entirely black bill, the totally different tint of the blue above, the black lateral line, and other characters, while *C. gentiana*, Tristr., from St. Christoval, is white below.

Mr. WALTER ROTHSCHILD further exhibited specimens of the following recently described or very rare species from the Solomon Islands:—*Charmosynopsis margarethæ* (Tristr.), Kulambangra Island; *Hypocharmosyna meeki*, Rothsch. & Hart. (Nov. Zool. 1901, p. 187), Kulambangra Island; *Myzomela eichhorni*, Rothsch. & Hart. (Nov. Zool. 1901, p. 181), Kulambangra Island; *Myzomela lafargei*, Hombr. & Jacq., Isabel Island.

Mr. Ernst Hartert exhibited and described examples of the following apparently new species of birds:—

Podargus inexpectatus, n. sp.

♂. Upperside brown, very finely vermiculated, darker on the rump and head, merging into whitish grey on the scapulars; wing-coverts with a number of large, roundish, very conspicuous white spots; quills deep brown, with buff bars across the outer, and part of the inner, webs; tail with very obvious bars; under surface of a vermiculated irregularly transversely mottled brown colour, spotted with black near the tips of the feathers, but with white spots only in the centre of the breast and on the chin.

♀. Rufous, but similarly marked to the male. Wing-coverts very deep rufous brown, the roundish white apical spots being therefore very conspicuous. Wing, ♀ 220, ♂ ♂ 235, 221; tail, ♀ 178, ♂ ♂ 188, 192; width of bill at gape, ♀ 52, ♂ ♂ 56, 58 mm. "Iris yellowish brown, feet light pale yellow, bill turkey-umber."

Hab. Isabel Island, Solomon Islands, June 1901.

One female and two males sent by A. S. Meek.

Obs. This species, belonging to a genus which is quite new to the Solomon Archipelago, is of all the known forms evidently nearest to *Podargus intermedius,* Hart., from the D'Entrecasteaux Islands, but differs in having the white apical spots to the wing-coverts much rounder in shape, the males being darker and having much less white on the under surface, and no distinct crescents of blackish-brown patches on the sides of the throat and chest. The upper surface is more uniform, the tail much more distinctly cross-barred than is usual in *P. intermedius.* The upper wing-coverts are very dark, the under wing-coverts less uniform and more sharply spotted. The bill is somewhat broader, as a rule. From *Podargus meeki* and *P. ocellatus* the new species is distinguished at a glance by its much larger size, while it is much smaller than *P. papuensis* and *P. strigoides,* and altogether differently marked from *P. phalænoides.*

Pseudoptynx solomonensis, n. sp.

Rufous, the underside with blackish-brown shaft-stripes, the upper surface with blackish longitudinal and transverse markings.

Obs. This unexpected species is very much like *Pseudoptynx philippinensis* and *P. gurneyi*, but differs in many details. The most striking difference is in the black markings of the back and wing-coverts, which in the two Philippine species have only wide central black stripes, while in *P. solomonensis* these markings are narrower and have a number of cross-bars, more or less irregular in shape. The buffy longitudinal stripes caused by the buff outer edgings to the scapulars and outer series of wing-coverts in the Philippine species are absent in *P. solomonensis*. The under surface is of about as rich a rufous tint as in *P. gurneyi*, darker than in *P. philippinensis*, and uniform, the abdomen and feathering of the legs being as dark as the chest. The blackish shaft-stripes are rather narrower, and the feathers on the sides of the abdomen show darker rufous, though not very distinct, cross-bars. Rectrices rufous, the lateral ones regularly, the central ones irregularly, barred across with deep brown, not any lighter on the inner webs. Stiff feathers of the chin white, the outer ones rufous with brownish-black shaft-lines. Iris brownish yellow; bare toes yellowish white; bill umber, slate-colour at base. Wing 300, tail 170, metatarsus 60, middle toe without claw 45, bill 45 mm.

Hab. Isabel Island, Solomon Islands (*A. S. Meek*).

The Hon. N. Charles Rothschild exhibited the skin of a male Baer's Pochard (*Nyroca baeri*), shot on the Tring Reservoirs on the 5th November, 1901—the first recorded instance of the occurrence of this Duck in a wild state in the British Islands.

The exhibitor urged in support of the view that the specimen was a wild, rather than an escaped, bird: (*a*) that no specimen of this Duck had escaped from the Zoological Gardens, where there were now four pinioned examples sent by Mr. Frank Finn of Calcutta; (*b*) that both the Duke of Bedford and Mr. J. G. Millais had stated, in reply to his enquiries on the subject, that they were not aware of any of these birds having been turned out on artificial waters in this country.

Mr. Howard Saunders exhibited a specimen of the Sooty Tern (*Sterna fuliginosa*) which had been caught alive, but in an exhausted condition, on the 9th of October, 1901, in a street in Hulme near Manchester. The bird was picked up by a man while going his rounds of calling up people, about five o'clock on the morning in question.

Mr. E. Lort Phillips exhibited a specimen of the Carolina Crake (*Porzana carolina*) which he had shot in the island of Tiree, when snipe-shooting with his brother-in-law, Mr. F. Gunnis. This specimen appeared to be the third recorded British example. The first was shot near Newbury, and was exhibited by Professor Newton at a meeting of the Zoological Society on the 14th of February, 1865. A second was mentioned as having been caught alive by a boy at the Low Water Pier, Cardiff, in the spring of 1888, and is recorded in the 'Birds of Glamorgan' (p. 113).

Mr. Robert H. Read exhibited a specimen of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) from Somersetshire, which had been sent him for identification. It had been obtained at Pylle, near Shepton Mallet, on October 6th, by Mr. F. Dowling, who stated that he observed it in a hedge on the outskirts of his wood and shot it on the wing. The bird was in clean, newly-moulted plumage, bearing no traces of confinement, and proved on dissection to be a female. Very heavy westerly gales had prevailed during the two previous days. This was the first recorded occurrence in Somersetshire, although specimens had been obtained in recent years at Lundy Island, Bridport, and Menai Straits, all in the month of October. These birds had, as Mr. Howard Saunders remarked, perhaps received "assisted passages," yet the fact of their turning up always in the month of October seemed to indicate that they had previously lost their way during the autumnal migrations.

Mr. E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO sent the descriptions of three new species of birds obtained by him during his recent expedition into the Atlas Mountains:—

PARUS ATLAS, n. sp.

Adult male and female. Most nearly allied to *Parus mikalowskii*, Bogd., from the Caucasus, but differs chiefly in having the black on the fore-neck extending over the sides of the chest and (in the freshly-moulted bird conspicuously) spangled with white, and the sides of the belly and flanks dark smoky buff instead of pale buff.

♂. Total length 4·7 inches, wing 2·65, tail 1·95, tarsus 0·75.

♀. Total length 4·8 inches, wing 2·65, tail 1·95, tarsus 0·75.

Hab. Atlas Mountains, Morocco, 6000–8000 feet. 8th July, 1901.

MOTACILLA SUBPERSONATA, n. sp.

Adult male and female. Most nearly allied to *Motacilla personata*, Gould, from which, however, it may be at once distinguished by having the white on the forehead only half as wide, 0·2 inch (instead of 0·4 inch). The black is confined to the head, and does not extend beyond the nape. The median and greater secondary wing-coverts are dusky brown with pale margins, instead of white.

♂ (worn). Total length about 8·0 inches, wing 3·45, tail 3·65, tarsus 0·95.

♀. Total length about 8·0 inches, wing 3·6, tail 3·8, tarsus 0·95.

Hab. Wad Moorbei, Rehamra, Morocco, 4th–5th June, 1901.

COTILE MAURITANICA, n. sp.

Adult male and female. Nearest to *Cotile paludicola*, Vieill., and *C. minor*, Cab., but much paler, the upper parts being of a greyish-brown tint devoid of gloss, and the underparts pale, the chin, throat, fore-neck, and chest light smoky grey, and the breast and rest of the underparts pure white.

♂ (in moult). Total length 5·0 inches, wing 4·0, tail 1·8, tarsus 0·4.

♀ (in moult). Total length 5·0 inches, wing 4·0, tail 1·7, tarsus 0·4.

Hab. Wad Moorbei, Rehamra, Morocco, 5th–9th June, 1901.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe exhibited three specimens of the Iceland Redwing, which had been procured in a valley in the north of Iceland by Mr. F. Coburn in June 1899. These specimens showed constant differences from ordinary *Turdus iliacus,* and Dr. Sharpe considered that they belonged to a different form, which he proposed to call

Turdus coburni, n. sp.

T. similis *T. iliaco,* sed supra pallide grisescens, et striolis pectoralibus pallide griseis, minime nigris, et hypochondriis pallide cinnamomeis, minime ferrugineis distinguendus.

Mr. Coburn exhibited a series of large photographs of groups mounted by himself, illustrating the life-history of the following British species, mostly with their nests and natural surroundings:—Merlin (*Falco æsalon*), on an Irish moorland; Tawny Owl (*Syrnium aluco*), in a pollard oak at Bewdley; Sheldrake (*Tadorna cornuta*), on Morchras Island, North Wales; Puffins (*Fratercula arctica*), at Aberdaron, North Wales; Razorbills (*Alca torda*), on Horn Head, Co. Donegal; Common Gull (*Larus canus*), on an islet off the west coast of Ireland; Lesser Terns (*Sterna minuta*), on Falcarragh Sands, Co. Donegal; Ring-Plovers (*Ægialitis hiaticula*), on Morchras Island, North Wales; Dunlins (*Tringa alpina*), on Tregaron bog, North Wales; Sedge-Warbler (*Acrocephalus phragmitis*), at King's Heath; Yellow Ammer (*Emberiza citrinella*), at Earlswood; and Reed-

Warbler (*Acrocephalus streperus*), at Stone, near Kidderminster. The other subjects were :—A flight of Sanderlings (*Calidris arenaria*); a wisp of Teal (*Querquedula crecca*) feeding in a ditch; and the haunt of the Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticula*).

Captain Boyd Alexander described a new species of Nightjar from the Hinterland of the Gold Coast. Two specimens had been obtained by him during his recent service with the West-African Field Forces :—

Caprimulgus sharpei, n. sp.

Similar to *C. trimaculatus*, but smaller and darker; upper parts less spotted, especially on the nape, and more uniform; underparts with the blackish bars on the chest running into each other, causing this part to appear much darker than in *C. trimaculatus*.

♂ *ad* Gambaga, 22nd February, 1901. Total length (measured in flesh) 9·3 inches, wing 7, tail 5·1, tarsus 0·06.

Hab. Gambaga, Gold Coast Hinterland.

Mr. W. F. Ticehurst exhibited a female Squacco Heron (*Ardeola ralloides*), lent for the purpose by Mr. G. Bristow, of St. Leonard's. The specimen had been shot by a shepherd near Winchelsea, in Sussex, on the 16th of October, 1901. A pair of birds were seen, but the male was not procured until the 25th of October; it was in more perfect plumage, with the neck-feathers longer and devoid of dark longitudinal markings.

Captain G. E. Shelley sent the following note:— "Through the kindness of Dr. Forbes, Director of the Liverpool Museums, I have been able to examine the types of *Serinus rendalli*, Tristram, and find that the species is really a Weaver-bird belonging to the subfamily *Viduinæ*, and I should place it in a new genus between *Pyromelana* and *Quelea* in my List of the Birds of Africa. The very remarkable sharp angle at the base of the lower mandible suggests for this genus the name :—

"ANOMALOSPIZA, n. gen.

"Bill very deep and much compressed at the sides ; exposed culmen straight from the tip to the nostrils and extending far back, dividing in two the feathered portion of the forehead. Cutting-edge of the lower mandible bent into a sharp angle at the base, with the posterior side directed in a straight line with the centre of the nostril. Structure of the wings and feet the same as in *Pyromelana* and *Quelea*.

"Type *A. rendalli* (Tristr.)."

Dr. FINSCH sent a note on the occurrence of *Collocalia gigas,* Hart. & Butler, *in Java.* He had received a fine specimen from Mr. Max Bartels, a promising collector and observer on the birds of this island, who shot the specimen at Parir Datar, Preanger, October 2nd , 1901.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 18th of December, 1901, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street ; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, W. E. DE WINTON,
Chairman. *Editor.* *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXXIV.

The eighty-third Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of December, 1901.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—B. A. E. Buttress, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, F. D. Drewitt, M.D., F. W. Frohawk, H. Goodchild, F. H. Carruthers Gould, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, G. E. Lodge, H. C. Monro, E. S. Montagu, H. Munt, E. Neale, R. Nesham, E. W. Oates, C. E. Pearson, H. J. Pearson, F. Penrose, M.D., A. E. Price, W. P. Pycraft, R. H. Read, A. D. Sapsworth, H. Saunders, H. Scherren, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), E. Cavendish Taylor, Major H. A. Terry, A. Thorburn, N. F. Ticehurst, W. F. Urwick, L. A. Williams.

Visitors: Lt.-Col. D. Bruce, R.A.M.C., A. L. Distant, Hon. A. N. Hood, A. St. G. Sargeaunt, H. Schwann, A. L. Sclater.

Mr. W. E. de Winton announced that he had received a letter from Mr. A. J. Campbell, appreciating the greetings of the B. O. C. on the foundation of the sister Society in Australia, the Australian Ornithologists' Society, which had commenced its career under gratifying auspices.

Mr. de Winton also drew attention to the recent work done by Mr. Eagle Clarke on the migration of British Birds, and stated that he had passed some weeks of last autumn on the Eddystone Lighthouse for the purpose of studying migration.

Mr. Ernst Hartert sent descriptions of the following four new birds :—

MIXORNIS PRILLWITZI, n. sp.

♂ ♀ *ad.* Upper surface pale olive, with a very faint greenish tinge; crown of head distinctly ashy greyish, with a faint brown tinge; upper tail-coverts chestnut-rufous. Lores whitish grey; an indistinct pale greyish superciliary line; ear-coverts pale grey. Tail chestnut-brown. Remiges deep brown, outer webs chestnut-brown, inner webs margined with yellowish buff towards the base. Throat creamy white, with very narrow black shaft-lines, which are sometimes indistinct or quite absent. Rest of under surface sulphur-yellow, sides of body and under tail-coverts washed with pale olive, under wing-coverts pale sulphur-yellow. Iris reddish yellow, or yellow; bill blackish, below lighter; feet greyish green or olive. Wing 60 to 65 mm., tail 55 to 58, metatarsus 20, bill 16.

♀ like the male, but a little smaller.

Hab. Kangean Island, north of Bali, in the Java Sea.

Collected by Mr. Ernst Prillwitz, in whose honour it is named.

GRAUCALUS VORDERMANI, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Slate-grey, rump and upper tail-coverts whitish and with conspicuous ashy bars; underside lighter grey, more whitish on the lower abdomen; under tail-coverts white with a few faint greyish bars. Under wing-coverts barred white and slaty black. Wing 166 mm.

♀ *ad.* Like the male, but the bars on the rump and upper tail-coverts with black instead of ashy bars, the whole abdomen barred; under tail-coverts white or with only a few faint bars near the base of the tail. Wing 163 mm.

Hab. Kangean Island. Named in honour of Dr. Vorderman, the first explorer of the avifauna of the Kangean Islands in 1892.

The male of *Graucalus vordermani* differs from all the allied forms of the group of *Graucalus* (*Artamides*) *sumatrensis* in its barred under tail-coverts and rump, and the female in the quite, or almost, white under tail-coverts.

CYCLORHIS COIBÆ, n. sp.

Nearest to *C. insularis*, Ridgw., from Cozumel Island off Yucatan, but much more yellow on the breast and sides of the body. Differs from *C. flaviventris* in its shorter wings, more brownish crown, back, wings, and tail, darker sides of chest, and creamy-white middle of abdomen and under tail-coverts, also in the darker cheeks and ear-coverts.

Differs from *C. flavipectus* in the much more brownish crown and back, wings, and tail, much darker ashy ear-coverts, much less bright yellow throat and chest, and much smaller creamy-white area on the abdomen.

Hab. Coiba Island, off Panama. Collected by Mr. Batty.

APHANTOCHROA CUVIERI SATURATIOR, subsp. nov.

This form differs from typical *A. cuvieri* in its much darker green throat, jugulum, and breast, and deeper brown abdomen. The bill also seems to be a few millimetres longer.

Hab. Coiba Island, off Panama.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent the following description :—

LEPTOPTILA BATTYI, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Crown and nape dark bluish slate-grey, lighter on the forehead, passing on the neck into the colour of the upperside, which is of a uniform brownish chestnut, with a purple gloss on the back. Primaries dark slate-colour, basal two-thirds of inner webs cinnamon, outer webs with very narrow light rufous edges. Outer rectrices blackish slate-colour, tipped with white, about 12 to 15 mm. wide on the lateral pair, only 3 or 5 mm. on the third pair from outside; inner pairs brownish chestnut. Sides of head and neck dull grey; chin white; rest of underside pale vinaceous; throat and chest washed with a bluish slate-colour, flanks with brown; belly and under tail-coverts white. Bill (in skin) blackish, legs and feet carmine, iris light yellow. Wing 140 mm., tail 93, metatarsus 32, bill 22.

♀ like the male, only somewhat lighter and more brownish above.

Hab. Coiba Island, off Panama, Pacific Ocean.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD also described a remarkable new Bird of Paradise, which will be exhibited at one of the following meetings of this Club:—

LOBORHAMPHUS, n. gen.

This new genus shows some very complex characters, combining most of the peculiarities of *Lamprothorax* with the tail of an *Astrapia*. The most distinguishing character, however, is the unique arrangement of two yellow fleshy folds on the basal third of the bill, forming two short wattles on each side. The beard on the chin and the feathering at the base of the bill and nostrils as in *Lamprothorax*. Pectoral shield as in *Lamprothorax*, but the lateral pectoral tufts are longer and more curved, similar to those of *Falcinellus*. The nuchal frill is much less developed than in *Lamprothorax*.

LOBORHAMPHUS NOBILIS, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Crown purple; neck, back, and rump velvety black, with a bronze gloss. Wings and tail black, with a purple sheen on the exposed webs. Sides of neck and head coppery bronze. Chin and throat dark bronzy green. Pectoral shield glittering purple, with metallic blue reflexions. Some of the feathers of the lateral tufts have a metallic blue border. Below the pectoral shield is an ill-defined wide bronze-green band. Rest of under surface black, with a strong wash of purple. Bill and legs black. Wing 165 mm.; tail 154, lateral pair of tail-feathers 105; bill from gape 37, culmen 32; rostrum from nostrils 21·5; tarsus 44.

Hab. Dutch New Guinea, but exact locality unknown.

This specimen, like most of the fine new Birds of Paradise from this region, was purchased from the natives by the traders employed by Mr. van Renesse van Duivenbode.

Mr. **Howard Saunders** exhibited a specimen of the Red-throated Pipit (*Anthus cervinus*), which had been sent to him by Mr. L. A. Curtis Edwards, of St. Leonard's-on-Sea. The specimen was obtained in a garden at Ninfield, in Sussex, on the 26th of November, 1901, and, on dissection, had proved to be a female. It was in very perfect plumage and was evidently a young bird which had just completed its first moult.

Mr. **Saunders** also exhibited, on behalf of the Hon. Charles Rothschild, a specimen of the American Blue-bird (*Sialia sialis*), which had been picked up in a dying condition at Oundle on 6th of December, 1901. Mr. Saunders believed that this must have been an escaped individual, as the species was not unfrequently sent alive to England.

Dr. **Bowdler Sharpe** described two new species of East-African birds as follows:—

Cichladusa rufipennis, n. sp.

C. similis *C. guttatæ*, sed paullo minor et remigibus extus lætius rufis distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 3·2, caudæ 3·0, tarsi 1·0.

Hab. Coast-region of E. Africa (Lamu, &c.).

Chloropeta kenya, n. sp.

C. icterina (nec Sundev.), Sharpe, P. Z. S. 1900, p. 608.

Similis *C. natalensi*, sed notæo magis viridescenti-olivaceo, pileo et regione parotica dorso concoloribus. Long. tot. 4·8 poll., culm. 0·65, alæ 2·3, caudæ 2·3, tarsi 0·95.

Hab. Mt. Kenya (*H. J. Mackinder*: typus in Mus. Brit.).

Obs. When in Stockholm last August, Dr. Sharpe examined the type of Sundevall's *C. icterina*, which proved to be only the young of *C. natalensis*, and a MS. note by

Sundevall himself showed that he had already come to the same conclusion.

Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant gave the following review of the genus *Irrisor,* based upon his recent studies of the collection in the British Museum, and added a "key" to the species :—

"In the 'Catalogue of Birds' Salvin divided the forms of *Irrisor* with the head metallic green or purple into two species as follows :—

"1. *I. viridis.* With the tail more or less purple.

"2. *I. erythrorhynchus.* With the tail more or less greenish blue.

"The colour of the tail cannot, however, be relied on as a specific distinction.

"Salvin considered that the birds with black bills were merely the young of those with red bills. It is perfectly true that in the red-billed forms the young have the bill dusky, but there can be no doubt that the great majority of the specimens considered by him to be the young of *I. erythrorhynchus* represent distinct species. Young birds may be recognized by the buff feathers on the chin and throat. The whole group appears to be much in need of revision, and I propose the following arrangement of the species in Salvin's first section :—

"I. Head and throat metallic green, or black glossed with purplish ; wings and tail with white spots.
  A. Bill scarlet in the adult bird (dusky or partly dusky in the immature).
    a. Back metallic green.
      a'. Tail longer, 9·0–10·0 inches ; white band on quills wider, 0·9–1·1 inch in width...... *I. erythrorhynchus.*
      b'. Tail shorter, 7·0–8·0 inches ; white band on quills narrower, 0·5 inch in width...... *I. viridis.*
    b. Back sooty black with a purplish-bronze gloss *I. damarensis.*
  B. Bill black in the adult bird.
    c. Head, nape, and back glossed with metallic green and purplish blue .... *I. melanorhynchus.*
    d. Nape and back velvety black, slightly glossed with dull purplish blue ; crown of the head

very similar, but with indistinct green bronze-edged spots .... *I. somaliensis.*

II. Head and throat buff or white; wings and tail spotless.............................. *I. jacksoni*, &c.

The synonymy of these different species should stand as follows:—

"1. IRRISOR ERYTHRORHYNCHUS.

"*Upupa erythrorhynchus*, Lath. Ind. Orn. i. p. 280 (1790).

"*Promerops purpureus*, Shaw & Miller, Cimel. Phys. pl. 52 (1796).

"*Irrisor erythrorhynchus*, Salvin, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xvi. p. 19 (1892) [part. spec. *f, g, l, v, w*].

"*Irrisor viridis*, Salvin (nec Licht.), Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xvi. p. 17 (1892) [part. spec. *a–t, v*, and *o'*].

"*Hab.** W. AFRICA: Loando; Gold Coast. N.E. AFRICA: Darfur; Goz-Abu-Gumar, White Nile; Fashoda; mouth of Zeraf River. EQUATORIAL AFRICA: Niam-Niam, Uganda, Lake Baringo. E. AFRICA: Mombasa, Dar-es-Salaam, Mamboio, Ugogo, Usambara, Nyasa-land, Shiré River. SOUTH-EAST AFRICA: Mashona-land, Matabele-land, Makalaka Country, Transvaal, Natal.

"2. IRRISOR VIRIDIS.

"*Upupa viridis*, A. A. H. Licht. Cat. Rer. Nat. Hamb. p. 22 (1793) ['Kaffir-land'].

"*Irrisor capensis*, Less. Traité d'Orn. p. 239 (1831).

"*Irrisor viridis*, Salvin, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xvi. p. 17 (1892) [part. spec. *u* and *w–c'*].

"*Hab.* SOUTH AFRICA: Swazi-land, Natal; Knysna, in Cape Colony.

"The Swazi-land bird is somewhat intermediate between *I. erythrorhynchus* and *I. viridis*, having the wider white band across the quills of the former species, and the shorter tail of the latter.

"3. IRRISOR DAMARENSIS, n. sp.

"*Irrisor viridis*, Salvin, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xvi. p. 17 (1892) [part. spec. *d'–n'*].

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* "The localities given are those of the British Museum Collection."

"*Adult.* Crown, nape, back, breast, and sides sooty black, with a purplish-bronze gloss; chin and throat dark metallic green; white band across the primaries 0·9–1·1 inch wide; bill red. Total length ca. 17·0 inches; culmen in ♂ 2·2, in ♀ 1·7; wing 5·7–6·4; tail 9·6–10·3.

"*Hab.* South-west Africa: Damara-land. East Africa: Kibwezi, Ngomeni, and Machakos, B. E. Africa.

"The birds from British East Africa have the white band across the quills somewhat narrower than in typical Damara-land birds, but are otherwise identical.

"4. Irrisor melanorhynchus.

"*Nectarinia melanorhynchus*, Licht. Verz. Doubl. p. 15 (1823) [Senegal].

"*Falcinellus senegalensis*, Vieill. Enc. Méth. ii. p. 580 (1823).

"*Irrisor erythrorhynchus*, Salvin, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xvi. p. 19 (1892) [part. spec. *a–e*, *h–k*, and *m–u*].

"*Hab.* W. Africa: Senegambia; also N.E. Africa: Bogos-land and Tigre, N. Abyssinia. I cannot distinguish the Abyssinian birds from West-African specimens.

"5. Irrisor somaliensis, n. sp.

Adult. Top of the head blackish, with indistinct green bronze-edged spots; nape, back, and breast velvety black, slightly glossed with dull purplish blue; upper throat dark steel-blue, lower throat metallic green; rest of underparts brownish black; bill black. Total length ca. 17·0 inches; culmen in ♂ 2·5, in ♀ 1·8; wing 5·5–6·1; tail 8·0–9·3.

"*Hab.* N.E. Africa: Somali-land."

A letter from Mr. J. I. S. Whitaker drew attention to the difference in coloration of the Crested Larks of the Red Sea region from that of the true *Galerita cristata*. They were altogether paler and more grey in colour, and had the plumage more clearly marked, especially the crest and breast, the spots on the latter being smaller; the tail had a pale rufescent pattern on the outer feather, and the bill was rather longer and more curved. These characters were to be found in specimens from Arabia, the Red Sea coasts, and Berbera in Somali-land.

Mr. Collingwood Ingram sent for exhibition a specimen of a Scops Owl (*Scops scops*) which had been caught alive in a coach-house at Broadstairs in March 1898, when a brisk S.E. wind was blowing. The bird was kept alive for some time, but ultimately died and came into Mr. Ingram's possession.

Dr. Sclater exhibited a mounted specimen of a Common Sparrow-Hawk (*Accipiter nisus*) belonging to the South African Museum. It was labelled as having been obtained at Swellendam, Cape Colony, by Mr. W. Atmore, a well-known collector; but there was possibly some error in the record, as the species had never been met with in any part of South Africa before.

Dr. Sclater read some extracts from a letter lately received from Mr. E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, who was spending the winter at Tangier, and was intending to explore the eastern parts of the Moroccan Atlas in the early spring. Mr. Meade-Waldo promised an account of his journeys in the Atlas in June and July last, and further particulars of the new birds he had discovered (see above, p. 27), for the 'Ibis' of 1902.

Dr. Sclater also exhibited a set of the 'Daily Record' (for May last) of the birds observed by Mr. A. L. Butler at Khartoum and its neighbourhood, and read the following extract from a letter of that gentleman explaining his methods of observation:—

"I am sending you a form for noting birds met with daily, which I have had printed for my private use, to ask your opinion on it, and that of any members of the B. O. C. who might care to see it at the next meeting. The form is filled in for May, and is very interesting when compared with the forms I have also kept for other months, as showing fairly exactly the date on which certain species appear in different districts.

"My practice is to jot down the names of the birds any-how, just as they are met with, and to run over the list every night, ticking off the species noticed during the day, and adding any species not met with before. The utility of a daily record of all birds met with every month seems to me considerable, and if one has to write the names every day without a form it takes a long time, and one is also apt to accidentally omit some of them. With migrants, for instance, it is easy to note the date of their arrival in a district when first seen, but when one has been accustomed to seeing them daily one is apt to find they have slipped away without the date of their departure, in many cases, being even approximately noted."

[N.B.—It is proposed to hold the usual exhibition of lantern-slides early in the spring of 1902. Any Member who is willing to show pictures on this occasion is requested to communicate with the Secretary or the Editor.]

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 22nd of January, 1902, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater,	R. Bowdler Sharpe,	W. E. de Winton.
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXXV.

The eighty-fourth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 22nd of January, 1902.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, B. A. E. Buttress, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, E. N. F. Fenwick, J. Gerrard, H. Goodchild, W. R. Ogilvie Grant, E. Hartert, G. E. Lodge, J. G. Millais, E. J. Montagu, H. Munt, E. W. Oates, T. Parkin, F. Penrose, M.D., T. Digby Pigott, C.B., A. E. Price, W. P. Pycraft, R. H. Read, A. D. Sapsworth, H. Scherren, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), W. B. Tegetmeier, Major H. A. Terry, N. F. Ticehurst, H. M. Wallis, W. Watkins, L. A. Williams, H. F. Witherby, A. F. R. Wollaston, C. A. Wright.

Visitors: A. E. Carey, Hon. A. E. Henley, G. S. Hett, F. G. Hopkins, W. Jesse, Lieut. H. S. Lynes, R.N., M. J. Nicoll, J. S. Parkin, A. St. G. Sargeaunt, A. Turner.

Mr. E. J. Montagu exhibited an extraordinary specimen of a domestic Pigeon, bred between a "Blue Rock" and an "Owl." About three years ago traces of a small web between the toes became apparent, and by careful selection of web-footed birds the specimen shown *with perfectly webbed feet* had been produced.

Mr. TEGETMEIER considered that the fact demonstrated by this specimen was of the highest importance.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited and described the following new birds:—

COLUMBA GOODSONI, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Crown and sides of head plumbeous grey, lightest on the forehead; hind-neck purplish brown, with strong metallic reflexions; rest of upperside deep brown, with metallic reflexions, strongest and reddish purplish on the rump and upper tail-coverts. Wings slaty brown; inner webs of remiges, except the tips, pale cinnamon, like the under wing-coverts. Tail deep brown, with almost black shafts and a reddish-purple hue in a certain light. Chin very light plumbeous grey; fore-neck, chest, and breast plumbeous grey, with a faint purplish wash; abdomen more or less strongly washed with purplish brown; under tail-coverts pale chestnut-vinaceous; sides with a strong cinnamon-rufous wash under the wings. Iris red; feet carmine; bill black. Wing 155 to 156 mm., tail about 110, tarsus 16 to 17, bill 12 to 13.

♀ like the male, but generally a little duller, the upperside a little more brownish, under surface somewhat more uniform, wing a few millimetres shorter. Wing 146 to 151 mm., tail about 100 to 105, tarsus 16, bill 11 to 12.

Hab. S. Javier, Pambilar and Carondelet, N.W. Ecuador, collected by G. Flemming, one of Mr. Rosenberg's correspondents. Named after Mr. Arthur Goodson, of the Tring Museum, whose knowledge of *Columbidæ* is considerable.

Obs. This interesting new Pigeon replaces apparently in the regions inhabited by it the *Columba nigrirostris* of Central America, from which, however, it differs so materially, that I have described it as a species. *Columba subvinacea* of Central America is represented in the same regions by my *C. subvinacea berlepschi*, and a subspecies of *C. plumbea*, either *C. p. bogotensis* or an unnamed one, also occurs.

AMMOMANES CINCTURA ZARUDNYI, subsp. nov.

Differs from the very reddish cinnamon-sandy typical *A. cinctura* from the Cape Verd Islands and the very pale sandy *A. cinctura arenicolor* of Northern Africa by its dark earthy greyish upper surface. The underside is not almost white as in *A. cinctura arenicolor,* nor so reddish as in typical *A. cinctura,* but somewhat creamy buff, with very distinct striations on the chest. The ear-coverts are very dark, the middle of the throat strongly contrasting with the breast, being almost white. The feet are apparently (judged from dry skins) darker than in the other two forms. Young specimens are paler and thus resemble somewhat more the African form.

Ammomanes cinctura zarudnyi inhabits Eastern Persia.

Type: ♀ ad. 8.xi.1900. Mudjnabad, E. Persia, collected by Mr. Zarudny, in whose honour it is named. (Five specimens in the Tring Museum.)

Obs. This new form differs as much from *A. cinctura cinctura* and *A. cinctura arenicolor* as *Ammomanes phœnicuroides* from Sindh and the Punjab differs from *A. deserti* and *A. deserti algeriensis.*

Mr. ERNST HARTERT further exhibited a pair of the rare Humming-bird

CHÆTOCERCUS BURMEISTERI, Scl.

This bird was hitherto only known from a single specimen, the type, in the Museum at Buenos Ayres. It was only known in Europe from the water-colour sketch sent over by the late Dr. Burmeister, which had been reproduced on pl. xi. of Sclater and Hudson's 'Argentine Ornithology.' The figure and description (taken from the original type) were fairly, but not quite, correct. There seemed to be two pairs of short central metallic-green rectrices, not two only, thus making up the number of rectrices to ten. In the figure the underside was too whitish, the sides being metallic green, and there were also metallic-green centres to the feathers of the upper throat, which was crossed at the chin by united glittering crimson-red beard-stripes; the brown inner edge to the second long pair of rectrices was much too reddish and too wide.

The female had hitherto not been described. It was dark metallic green above, wings purplish brown-black; lateral pair of rectrices rufous-cinnamon, with a broad purplish brown-black bar across the inner web in the middle, the next two pairs with a similar bar through both webs, the two central pairs metallic green. Underside pale cinnamon, whitish in the middle of the abdomen; under tail-coverts cinnamon; under the eyes along the sides of the neck a wide dark brown stripe. Bill and feet black. Wing 34 mm., bill 13¼, tail 17½.

Dr. Sclater exhibited some very pretty coloured postcards recently sent to him by from Dresden, representing some of the rarer Birds of Paradise in the Dresden Museum.

It was unanimously resolved, on the motion of Mr. Robert Read, that the Meeting in March be devoted primarily to an exhibition of lantern-slides.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 19th of February, 1902, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater,	R. Bowdler Sharpe,	W. E. de Winton,
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXXVI.

The eighty-fifth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of February, 1902.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, Lt.-Col. C. T. Bingham, W. Ruskin Butterfield, B. A. E. Buttress, Major A. H. Cowie, R.E., F. Curtis, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, F. D. Drewitt, M.D., F. W. Frohawk, C. Garnett, H. Goodchild, F. H. C. Gould, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, E. Hartert, G. E. Lodge, J. G. Millais, H. C. Munroe, H. Munt, E. Neale, H. Noble, H. J. Pearson, F. Penrose, M.D., E. Lort Phillips, T. Digby Pigott, C.B., W. P. Pycraft, Col. R. G. Wardlaw Ramsay, R. H. Read, Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P., Howard Saunders, H. Scherren, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), W. B. Tegetmeier, Major H. Terry, A. Thorburn, N. F. Ticehurst, C. Whymper.

Visitors: Dr. Cowie, Col. C. Swinhoe.

Mr. J. G. Millais exhibited a series of specimens of the Mallard (*Anas boscas*), to illustrate the changes of plumage undergone by this species.

An interesting discussion ensued, and Dr. Sharpe pointed out that some of the facts propounded by Mr. Millais were, as far as he was aware, entirely new, and that they were of the greatest importance to the student of the moulting of birds, especially as they confirmed in so remarkable a manner the change of colour in a bird's plumage in connection with the moult.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild exhibited nests and eggs of the following land-birds from the Galápagos Islands:—

Certhidea olivacea fusca.

Nest in a small bush, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the ground, evidently built (according to the collector) on the top of a last season's nest. Principally composed of dry grass with a little moss and some cotton-balls. The eggs were three in number, dull white, with a very faint, hardly perceptible, greenish tinge and marked with pale reddish-brown patches and spots, the markings being sparse, excepting near the larger end, where they formed a well-defined ring. They measure: 18·5 by 15·2, 17·5 by 13·5, and 17·4 by 13·3 mm.

Obs. The eggs of *Certhidea* closely resemble those of the smaller *Geospizæ*, but the nests appear to be open at the top, like the nests of ordinary Finches.

These eggs were taken on Abingdon Island on April 16th by Mr. R. H. Beck.

Geospiza fuliginosa.

The nests of the *Geospizæ* are placed in bushes and on cactus-stems, generally at no great height. The present nest was situated in a bush, 5 feet above the ground, and was composed of grass, straw, moss, and cotton. Like all the nests of the *Geospizæ*, it was covered in above, and there was a good-sized opening on one side.

The eggs were 3 or 4, sometimes even 5, in number. They measured (one of the clutch of three broken): 20 by 14·4, 19·5 by 14·2, and 18·6 by 13·6 mm. They were dull white and were marked with a pale reddish-brown patch and spots and a few deeper purple-brown ones, all the markings being more frequent near the larger end, where they form a more or less defined zone.

The eggs were taken on Chatham Island, March 15th, by Mr. Beck.

Pyrocephalus dubius.

The nest of this little bird was a beautiful little flat structure placed on a fork near the end of a branch, about 14 feet from the ground. It was principally composed of *Orchilla*-moss, with a few weed-stems and two or three pieces of grass. The two eggs were of a rich cream-colour, without gloss, and marked with a ring of dark brown patches and a few underlying pale grey patches near the larger end. They measure 16·8 by 13·4 and 16·7 by 13·2 mm.

The eggs were taken on Chatham Island, March 15th, by R. H. Beck.

Nesomimus adamsi.

Nests and eggs similar to the species of the genus *Mimus*, from which Mr. Rothschild considered *Nesomimus* to be hardly separable as a genus. The nests were placed in trees, the present one having been taken at a height of 12 feet from the ground. It consisted of *Orchilla*-moss, dry weeds, and grass-stems, and rested on a foundation of twigs. The eggs were four in number; they resembled small Blackbirds' eggs and were greenish, more or less heavily marked with reddish-brown patches and spots and underlying ones of a mauve colour.

Measurements :—26·3 by 19·5, 25·5 by 19·7, 24·6 by 19·6, and 25 by 19·6 mm.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild also exhibited the type of the species of *Paradiseidæ* described by him in a recent number of the 'Bulletin,' viz. *Loborhamphus nobilis*, and also *Parotia duivenbodei*.

Mr. Rothschild further exhibited a very remarkable variety of *Eclectus roratus*. This bird had the back, right wing, and right side of head and neck maroon-crimson, most of the feathers edged with green, the left wing and left side green with maroon-red bases to the feathers, the breast and abdomen mixed green and purplish blue. Although the colours were thus somewhat varied, the general appearance was red on the right and green on the left half of the bird. It was therefore probably an hermaphrodite, or else a very uncommon example of one-sided erythrism. The skin had been brought to Makassar by Mr. van Duivenbode's traders and was said to have been obtained in Northern Halmahéra.

Mr. Ernst Hartert exhibited and described a new form of Sand-Grouse:—

Pterocles coronatus atratus, subsp. nov.

Pterocles coronatus had originally been described from Nubia. Male birds from N.E. Africa, as well as from Tunis and Algiers, had the upper surface reddish isabelline-buff, the scapulars and wing-coverts buffy vinaceous, with a pale buff patch at the extremity. The form *P. c. atratus* had the upperside greyish isabelline with blackish speckles, the scapulars and upper wing-coverts with large centres of a blackish slate-colour, and still paler, more whitish-buff spots near the tips. Thus the entire upper surface had a slaty and pale buff appearance, while that of typical North-African *P. coronatus* was reddish buff.

The females differed still more conspicuously, that of *P. coronatus* being pale vinous buff or pale isabelline, more or less narrowly barred with black, while the bars on the buff under surface were narrow; on the other hand, the female of *P. c. atratus* had the upper surface black with pale creamy-buff bars, and the under surface more whitish and much more heavily barred.

The types of *Pterocles coronatus atratus* were from Eastern Persia, collected by Mr. Zarudny.

Measurements:—♂, wing 197, tail 86 mm.; ♀, wing 190, tail 84 mm.

Obs.—These observations are based on the material in the Tring Museum. The series in the British Museum thoroughly confirms them, the African skins being very different from the Asiatic ones. A male from the Mhow district, in Central India, is, however, less blackish than typical *P. c. atratus*, and one from Jacobabad is paler, inclining more to the African form, though still less vinaceous and more of a greyish-sandy tint.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe exhibited a specimen of a *Pitta* procured by Mr. J. Ffolliott Darling near Salisbury in Rhodesia, at a height of 6000 feet. The specimen appeared to be *Pitta longipennis* of Reichenow (Orn. MB. ix. p. 117, 1901), described from Northern Nyasa Land. It was of a lighter green colour than *P. angolensis*, but had much longer wings, lacked the dark brown stripe on the side of the crown, and had only a single broad stripe of pale ochre. The *eau-de-nil* blue tips were confined to the lesser coverts, and the tips of the greater series were ultramarine. In addition to these characters, the white speculum on the primaries and the white tips to the outer secondaries were much larger. *P. reichenowi*, Madarász (Orn. MB. ix. p. 133) seemed from the description to be quite a different species.

Dr. Sharpe also exhibited specimens of a new species of Petrel from the island of South Trinidad, procured by the Naturalists of the 'Discovery.' It was nearly allied to *Œstrelata arminjoniana*, Gigl. & Salvad., but was altogether a blacker bird with a much more massive bill. The name proposed was

Œstrelata wilsoni.

♂ *ad.* Similis *Œ. arminjonianæ*, sed nigricans, nec brunnea: subtus alba, hypochondriis, axillaribus et subalaribus nigricantibus; torque gutturali angusta nigricante, et gulæ plumis anguste nigro limbatis; subcaudalibus quoque terminaliter nigris: rostro nigro; tarsis et pedibus carneis, dimidiatim nigro terminatis; iride saturate brunnea. Long. tot. circa 12·5 poll., culm. 1·1, alæ 11·0, caudæ 4·35, tarsi 1·25.

Named after Dr. E. F. Wilson, the naturalist attached to the National Antarctic Exploring-ship 'Discovery.'

Dr. J. von Madarász wrote to point out that the name *Muelleria*, proposed by Dr. Büttikofer for a genus of *Timeliidæ* (*cf.* Notes Leyden Mus. xvii. pp. 68, 96, 1895), had been preoccupied more than once since 1803, and could not be employed in Ornithology. He therefore proposed the name of *Buettikoferia* in its place.

Mr. E. Lort Phillips exhibited two specimens of the Somali-Land Guinea-fowl, *Numida somaliensis*, Oscar Neumann, and pointed out that as these two specimens agreed with the type of the species as regards the length of the nasal bristles and the feathering on the hind-neck, there could be no doubt of its being a distinct species.

Mr. N. F. Ticehurst exhibited a pair (♂ & ♀) of the White-winged Lark (*Melanocorypha sibirica*), sent for exhibition by Mr. George Bristow, of St. Leonard's-on-Sea.

The birds had been shot by a man named Ward at Woodchurch, in Kent—the female on January 28th and the male on January 27th; a third individual was seen, but not procured.

These were the first records of this bird for the county of Kent, and only one previous example is known from the British Isles, viz. a bird caught alive on Nov. 22nd, 1869, near Brighton, and exhibited at a meeting of the Zoological Society of London.

Mr. Howard Saunders alluded to the last-named individual and mentioned occurrences of the species in Belgium, Heligoland, N. Italy, and Tyrol, while to the eastward they were not uncommon.

Mr. Sclater exhibited some skins of new or rare Australian birds, kindly sent to him by Mr. Robert Hall, of Melbourne (the author of the 'Key to the Birds of Australia'), and Mr. A. J. North, C.M.Z.S., of Sydney. They were referable to the following species:—

1. Malurus leucopterus.
2. „ dorsalis.
3. Melithreptus lætior.
4. Ptilotis keartlandi.
5. „ leilavalensis.
6. Pseudogerygone tenebrosa.
7. Poëphila gouldiæ.
8. Mirafra woodwardi.
9. Platycercus macgillivrayi.

Mr. Sclater offered the following remarks:—

Ptilotis keartlandi, North.

This handsome species was first described by Mr. North (Ibis, 1895, p. 340) from specimens collected during the "Horn" Expedition to Central Australia. Examples have also been recently obtained in the vicinity of North-west

Cape (see Campbell's 'Nests and Eggs of Australian Birds,' p. 402). The pair which I now exhibit was procured at Derby, North-west Australia, and sent to me by Mr. Hall.

PTILOTIS LEILAVALENSIS, North.

The history of this recent addition to the Australian avifauna will be found in Mr. Campbell's new book on the 'Nests and Eggs of Australian Birds' (p. 405). The present specimen was obtained at Cardaha Creek, N. Australia, on March 25th, 1899, by Mr. Tom Carter, and has been sent to me by Mr. Hall.

MIRAFRA WOODWARDI, Milligan, Vict. Nat. xviii. p. 25.

Mr. Hall sends me a single specimen of this *Mirafra* obtained at Derby, Western Australia, on the 24th August, 1900. The describer appears to be correct in recognizing this as a new species of Australian Lark, differing from *M. horsfieldi* in the larger size and more rufous plumage. There is an example of it in the British Museum from Port Essington, North Australia, received from the Gould Collection and registered as *M. horsfieldi* (Cat. B. xiii. p. 604, specimen *l*).

The South-Australian *M. secunda,* Sharpe (Cat. B. xiii. p. 603), is also a close ally of this species, but is smaller in size and less distinctly striped on the neck.

PSEUDOGERYGONE TENEBROSA, Hall, Vict. Nat. xviii. p. 79.

This appears to be a valid species. I can find nothing like it in the National Collection. The specimen is from Derby, N.W. Australia.

EREMIORNIS CARTERI, North, Victorian Nat. xvii. pp. 78, 93 (1900).

Mr. North kindly sends me an example of this supposed new genus and species of Australian birds. The genus is closely allied to *Schœnicola* of India (Cat. B. vii. p. 110), and perhaps hardly distinct; but the specimen is not in very good condition, and I am unable to decide definitely upon it. It is at any rate a new species, and a most interesting addition to the Australian avifauna.

Platycercus macgillivrayi, North.

Mr. North has also kindly sent me a specimen of this decidedly new Parrakeet from the Burke District of Northern Queensland, which he has lately described in the 'Victorian Naturalist' (xvii. pp. 91, 113). The sex is not recorded, but from Mr. North's description I suppose it to be a female. It was obtained at Cloncurry near Normanton. The species belongs to the group of *P. barnardi*, which, however, I am not inclined to separate generically from *Platycercus*.

Mr. **Sclater** also exhibited a specimen of a Tyrannine bird of the genus *Phyllomyias* (Cat. Birds B. M. xiv. p. 122), which had been transmitted to him for determination by Dr. Berg, Director of the National Museum, Buenos Aires. It was stated by Dr. Berg to have been taken at Tafi, Province of Tucuman, Argentina, in December 1898. It was no doubt the same as *Phyllomyias berlepschi*, Salvad. (Bull. Mus. Zool. ed Anat. Torino, no. 292, p. 13, 1897).

There being already a *Phyllomyias berlepschi*, this species (of which Count Salvadori had most kindly sent the type to Mr. Sclater for comparison) had been renamed *Phyllomyias salvadorii* by Dubois (Syn. Av. p. 338); but it was certainly very closely allied to *P. brevirostris*, and perhaps hardly distinguishable.

Mr. W. B. **Tegetmeier** exhibited the head of a Pheasant shot on Sir Walter Gilbey's estate, and remarkable for its very pale superciliary streak.

The next Meeting of the Club (Lantern Exhibition) will be held on Wednesday, the 19th of March, 1902, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater,	R. Bowdler Sharpe,	W. E. de Winton,
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXXVII.

THE eighty-sixth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of March, 1902.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—H. ASHBY, E. BIDWELL, Col. C. T. BINGHAM, B. A. E. BUTTRESS, Major A. H. COWIE, R.E., F. CURTIS, W. E. DE WINTON (*Treasurer*), H. E. DRESSER, F. D. DREWITT, M.D., E. N. F. FENWICK, C. GARNETT, J. GERRARD, H. GOODCHILD, F. H. C. GOULD, E. HARTERT, J. E. HARTING, Hon. G. LASCELLES, G. E. LODGE, A. McL. MARSHALL, B. W. MARTIN, J. G. MILLAIS, E. S. MONTAGU, H. MUNT, J. P. CHAWORTH MUSTERS, E. NEALE, R. NESHAM, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, F. G. PENROSE, M.D., T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., H. L. POPHAM, A. E. PRICE, W. P. PYCRAFT, R. H. READ, Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, M.P., A. D. SAPSWORTH, H. SCHERREN, F. C. SELOUS, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D. (*Editor*), W. B. TEGETMEIER, Major H. TERRY, A. THORBURN, N. F. TICEHURST, H. M. UPCHER, W. WATKINS, C. WHYMPER, J. WILKINSON, L. A. WILLIAMS, C. A. WRIGHT.

Visitors: J. BARKER, B. A. BRISTOWE, R. M. COWIE, W. P. DANDO, C. E. FAGAN, Hon. A. HENLEY, C. B. HILL, H. R. HOLDER, Hon. A. HOOD, N. H. JACOB, R. B. LODGE, M. G. NICOLL, W. E. RENAUT, C. M. DIGBY PIGOTT, E. W. WADE, LOUIS WAIN, H. L. WILLCOX.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe described a new species of Dove, from the Province of Salta, Argentina, which he proposed to call

Gymnopelia morenoi, n. sp.

G. supra griseo-brunnea, concolor, minime rufo-fasciata: alis dorso concoloribus: ala spuria, tectricibus primariorum et remigibus nigricantibus, his intus rufescentibus apicem versus brunneis, extus rufo limbatus: pileo paullo saturatiore: linea superciliari indistincta, nigra: regione periophthalmica nuda, flava: facie laterali, gutture et præpectore columbino-cinereis, corpore reliquo subtus vinaceo, crisso et hypochondriis vix rufescentioribus: caudâ nigrâ, remigibus medianis brunneis, apicem versus nigris, tribus externis albo gradatim terminatis: iride alba. Long. tot. circa 6·7 poll., culm. 0·45, alæ 3·85, caudæ 2·6, tarsi 0·7.

Hab. Inca-huasi, Province of Salta, 3000 feet. Type presented to the British Museum by Dr. Moreno.

Obs.—This type specimen has been submitted to Count Salvadori, who agrees with Dr. Sharpe that it belongs to an undescribed species, and might indeed almost be considered the type of a new genus. It possesses the bare periotic space of *Gymnopelia,* but it differs entirely in its uniform plumage and smaller size. Count Salvadori points out that in the plain colouring of the plumage it resembles the members of the genus *Metriopelia* and some of the *Chamæpeliæ,* the rufous colouring towards the base of the inner web of the quills being a good character, which was also seen in *Metropelia aymara.*

Dr. Sharpe also proposed some changes of generic names pre-occupied in other classes of zoology, which had been brought to his notice by Dr. Stejneger, Dr. von Madarász, and Dr. Bianchi.

Aethostoma, nom. emend. vice *Trichostoma,* Blyth, 1842 (nec Pictet, 1834, Neuroptera).

Setaria, Blyth, 1844, vice *Malacopterum,* Eyton, 1839 (nec *Malacopterus,* Sw. 1835, Coleoptera).

Nesobates, nom. emend. vice *Oxylabes,* Sharpe, 1870 (nec *Oxylabis,* Forst. 1856, Hymenoptera).

Heteroxenicus, nom. emend. vice *Drymochares,* Gould, 1868 (nec Mulsant, 1847, Coleoptera).

Dr. Bianchi sent a note pointing out that Mr. Oates's genus *Sittiparus* (Faun. Brit. Ind., Birds, i. p. 171, 1889) was preoccupied by *Sittiparus* of De Selys-Longchamps (Bull. Soc. Zool. France, ix. p. 58, 1884). Dr. Bianchi proposed the amended name of *Proparoides,* with the type *P. cinereus* (Blyth).

Mr. J. I. S. Whitaker forwarded for exhibition new specimens of the *Scops* from the Island of Cyprus which had been recently described by Dr. J. von Madarász (Termesz. Füzetek, 1901, p. 272) as *Pizorhina cypria.*

The Scops Owl from Cyprus, as already pointed out by the late Lord Lilford (Ibis, 1889, p. 312), differs from typical *S. giu* in having the general colour of the plumage darker, the upper parts especially being dark grey, and in the absence of the rufous tint generally to be found on the back and scapulars of the ordinary form.

In colour this race nearly approaches *S. capensis,* which ranges from South Africa to Abyssinia, but may be at once distinguished by its much larger size: wing 5·85–6·1 inches.

Mr. Digby Pigott made some remarks on the interbreeding of the Egyptian Goose and the Ruddy Sheld-duck.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild exhibited a new subspecies of *Rheinardius ocellatus,* which he described as follows:—

Rheinardius ocellatus nigrescens, subsp. nov.

Similar to the typical *R. ocellatus,* but differing in several very conspicuous details. The mantle and wings darker, brownish black, with chestnut-rufous mottlings instead of dark brown; the spots of the upper surface mostly quite round and pure white, instead of more or less buff, and irregular or elongated; the markings on the rump less numerous but larger and with more white; the white spots on the outer secondaries mostly quite round, instead of taking the form of irregular oblique lines; the upper crest-feathers black, instead of dark brown, the white feathers of the crest apparently more numerous; the outer webs of the enormously elongated rectrices deeper in colour and more of a blackish brown, and at the same time more uniform; the wide superciliary stripe not greyish white, but strongly tinged with rufous; the bill somewhat stouter. Dimensions the same as those of *Rh. ocellatus,* but the tail perhaps less elongated, the rectrices of the two males measuring no more than about 2 feet 2 inches, instead of about 3 feet in *R. ocellatus.*

Obs.—The female of the new form does not differ from that of *Rh. ocellatus ocellatus* in any appreciable characters. It is somewhat brighter and more rufous, but this may be due to the freshness of the plumage.

Types. Two males and one female caught in the eastern Malay Peninsula, at Ulu Pahang, by Mr. Waterstradt's native hunters.

A number of lantern-slides were then shown by the members of the Club and their friends *.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild exhibited facsimiles of the figures of the "Waldrapp" from the works of Gesner and Aldrovandus, together with a reproduction of Albin's plate of his "Woodcrow from Switzerland." A comparison of these figures clearly proved that Linnæus's *Corvus eremita,* founded on these illustrations, was referable to the "Red-cheeked Ibis," which, as explained in 'Novitates Zoologicæ,' 1897, must therefore be called

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* The number of slides shown was about 250. The Editor regrets that his report of the exhibition of March 19, 1902, which all the Members agree to have been the most successful of the Club's "lantern" evenings, must be extremely imperfect, as only four of the exhibitors have sent in a list of their slides. Owing to the room being in darkness, it was impossible for the Editor to take notes of the different pictures, and he would be pleased if the exhibitors, on future occasions, would be kind enough to furnish him with the details of their slides, so that the many interesting facts which are brought before the meeting at these *réunions* may be put on record.—R. B. S.

Comatibis eremita (L.).

Mr. Rothschild also exhibited a skin of the bird shot by Mr. Hartert in Morocco.

Mr. Rothschild also showed some photographs (from life) of the five races of *Apteryx*, viz., *Apteryx australis*, Shaw, *A. australis mantelli*, Bartl., *A. oweni*, Gould, *A. oweni occidentalis*, Rothsch., and *A. haasti*, Potts.

Mr. Rothschild further exhibited photographs of twelve different races of *Casuarius*, viz., *C. casuarius*, L. (two slides), *C. casuarius beccarii*, Scl., *C. casuarius salvadorii*, Oust., *C. casuarius sclateri*, Salvad., *C. casuarius australis*, Wall, *C. casuarius violicollis*, Rothsch., *C. bicarunculatus*, *C. unappendiculatus occipitalis*, Salvad., *C. philipi*, Rothsch., *C. papuanus edwardsi*, Oust., *C. bennetti*, Gould, and *C. bennetti maculatus*, Rothsch.

Mr. Rothschild also showed a photograph of a hybrid between a white Peahen and a Guinea-fowl, as well as two groups of Emus and Rheas taken in Tring Park, together with one of the Rhea's nest.

Dr. Sclater exhibited fourteen slides of photographs taken by Mr. E. N. Buxton, F.Z.S., during his recent shooting-expedition between Khartoum and Fashoda on the White Nile. They represented the following species :—

Marabout Stork (*Leptoptilus crumeniferus*).
Saddle-billed Stork (*Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*).
Fish-Eagle (*Haliaëtus vocifer*).
Flock of Pelicans (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*).
Wood-Ibis (*Pseudotantalus ibis*).
Sacred Ibis (*Ibis æthiòpica*) and Heron (*Ardea cinerea*).
Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus candidus*).
Spoonbills (*Platalea leucerodia*).
Black Vulture (*Vultur monachus*).

Jabirus and Egrets (*Ardea alba*).
Goliath Heron (*Ardea goliath*).
White Egret (*Ardea alba*).
Buff-backed Heron (*Ardea bubulcus*).
Sacred Ibis (*Ibis æthiopica*).

Dr. Sclater also exhibited a "slide" of the Shoe-bill (*Balæniceps rex*) taken from a tame specimen in the garden of the Sirdar's Palace at Khartoum. It had been winged by a rifle-shot on the Jur river by Col. Sparkes, and brought down to Khartoum and presented by him to Lady Wingate.

Mr. E. W. Wade exhibited the following photographs taken by himself:—

Young of Brown Owl. Hornsea Mere.

Tengmalm's Owl, old cock bird and young from Surendal, Norway.

Woodcock sitting. North Lincolnshire.

Guillemots on Bempton Cliffs.

Female Peregrine Falcon at the nest.

Also some beautiful pictures taken by T. A. Metcalfe, of Pickering, viz.:—

Peewit on nest.
Peewit turning eggs.
House-Swallows roosting.
Titlark about to feed young Cuckoo.
Titlark feeding young Cuckoo, the head of the foster-parent being inserted in the Cuckoo's gape.
Garden-Warbler sitting.
Stone-Curlew sitting.
Merlin, ♂, on nest.
,, ♀ ,,
Nightjar on nest.

Dr. Sharpe exhibited a series of "snapshots" taken with a "binocular" camera during the session of the Zoological Congress at Berlin in August last. These included portraits of many of the leading Ornithologists who were present on the occasion.

Mr. J. G. Millais exhibited some very interesting pictures illustrative of the courting of several species of British Ducks.

Mr. R. B. Lodge showed some beautiful photographs taken by himself in different parts of Europe. They included illustrations of the nesting of Night-Herons, Egrets, and Wading-birds in Andalucia; Spoonbills (adults and young), Herons, Storks, and Black Terns in Holland. One picture of a Purple Heron was particularly interesting, as the bird automatically photographed itself on returning to its nest, by means of an electric current connecting the camera and the nest on which the bird set its foot. The eggs of a Ringed Plover with the parent bird had been photographed in 1901, on a sewage-farm situated within the London postal district. Nests of Montagu's Harrier and the Short-eared Owl had been also successfully photographed in Norfolk in 1899.

Exhibitions of lantern-slides, illustrating the life-history of European birds, were given by Mr. Ticehurst, Mr. Robert Read (who had some excellent pictures of birds' nests, many of them taken during his expedition to Denmark, with Mr. A. D. Sapsworth, in the spring of 1901), and Mr. Buttress (who showed some particularly good pictures of Ptarmigan). Mr. Dando showed some pictures photographed by himself, and taken from birds living in the Zoological Society's Gardens.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 16th of April, 1902, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater,	R. Bowdler Sharpe,	W. E. de Winton,
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXXVIII.

THE eighty-seventh Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of April, 1902.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—Dr. J. C. BAKER, E. BIDWELL, B. A. E. BUTTRESS, Major A. H. COWIE, R.E., W. E. DE WINTON (*Treasurer*), H. E. DRESSER, H. J. ELWES, F.R.S., E. N. F. FENWICK, H. GOODCHILD, F. H. C. GOULD, E. HARTERT, G. E. LODGE, B. MARTIN, Colonel MASON, E. S. MONTAGU, H. MUNT, R. NESHAM, H. NOBLE, T. PARKIN, H. J. PEARSON, F. G. PENROSE, M.D., A. E. PRICE, R. H. READ, Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, M.P., A. D. SAPSWORTH, H. SAUNDERS, F. C. SELOUS, A. THORBURN, W. B. TEGETMEIER, N. F. TICEHURST, A. TREVOR-BATTYE, W. WATKINS.

Visitors: T. F. ALTHAUS, C. B. BROWN, W. L. DISTANT, F. CARRUTHERS GOULD, B. W. WILLETT.

A communication was read from Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE calling attention to an interesting species of Lark represented in Lord Delamere's collection from the Athi River, in British East Africa. Along with several specimens of the new species, *Spizocorys athensis* (Bull. B. O. C. x. p. ci, 1900), there was a single example of *Calandrella acutirostris* of Hume, this being the first instance recorded of the occurrence of this Asiatic species in Africa. He also pointed out the characters of two apparently undescribed races of *Mirafra africana,* which he considered to be quite as worthy of distinction as *M. tropicalis* and other forms admitted by ornithologists.

MIRAFRA PALLIDA, n. sp.

M. africanæ similis, sed supra rufescenti-brunnea, vix griseo lavata, notæi plumis anguste nigricanti-brunneo striatis: loris, supercilio et facie laterali albis: maculis pectoralibus minutis distinguenda. Long. tot. 7·5 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 3·9, caudæ 2·75, tarsi 1·2.

Hab. Damara Land (*Andersson*; typus in Mus. Brit.).

MIRAFRA GRISESCENS, n. sp.

M. africanæ similis, sed colore grisescenti- nec rufescenti-brunneo distinguenda. Long. tot. 7·7 poll., culm. 0·85, alæ 3·8, caudæ 2·5, tarsi 1·2.

Hab. Tibakai's Vley, Matabele Land (*F. Oates*: typus in Mus. Brit.).

Dr. SHARPE also pointed out that the bird which he had described as *Spizocorys personata* was not a *Spizocorys,* but that it was certainly not an *Alauda,* in which genus Captain Shelley had proposed to put it. It differed from *Alauda* in its long wings, which reached practically to the tip of the tail, and in its very peculiar flattened bill, especially on the genys. The coloration was also so peculiar, that the species must be made the type of a distinct genus, which Dr. Sharpe proposed to call *Aëthocorys.*

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited a new species of Petrel, which he described as follows:—

ŒSTRELATA WORTHENI, n. sp.

Obs. This bird bears a close resemblance to *Œ. magentæ,* Gigl. & Salvad., from which it differs in the following points:—

The malar region, lores, and forehead are of a uniform brownish slate-colour, while in the type of *Œ. magentæ* the forehead and an ill-defined band above the black lores are whitish. The general colour above is darker, more blackish.

The dimensions are less, the bill is much smaller and weaker, the primaries are narrower than in the type of *Œ. magentæ*. Wing 277 mm. (about 308 in *Œ. magentæ*), tail 115 (140 in *Œ. magentæ*), culmen from forehead in a straight line 26 (43 in *Œ. magentæ*), depth of bill at base 13 (15 in *Œ. magentæ*), tarsus 32½ (38 in *Œ. magentæ*), middle toe with claw 48 (56 in *Œ. magentæ*), extent 990, length in the flesh 355 mm. Bill entirely blackish; tarsus and basal half of toes flesh-colour; tarsus dusky at base; distal half of toes and outside of outer toe blackish.

One adult female was caught on January 2nd, 1901, at sea, in the Pacific Ocean, in 3° S., 118° 45′ W., not far from the Galapagos Islands, by Mr. R. H. Beck. (Type, No. 143, R. H. Beck coll.: in Mus. Tring.)

The species is named after Mr. Ch. K. Worthen, of Warsaw, Ill., U.S.A., who arranged and managed Mr. Beck's recent trip to the Galapagos Islands. For references to *Œ. magentæ*, see 'Ibis,' 1869, pp. 61, 66; Viaggio Magenta, pp. 843, 884; Rowley's Orn. Misc. i. p. 251, pl. 30; Cat. B. xxv. p. 407.

Mr. E. Hartert read the following description of a new species of the family *Tyrannidæ*, based upon a specimen in the Vienna Museum:—

Platyrhynchus nattereri, Hart. & Hellm., n. sp.

Similar to *P. griseiceps*, Salvin (Guiana, Orinoco), but differs in having the crown olivaceous grey, almost of the same colour as the back, whereas in the allied species the dark slaty crown forms a very distinct cap, being sharply defined against the rufous-brownish colour of the rest of the upperside. Cheeks and ear-coverts olivaceous grey like the crown, instead of dark slaty grey; the throat more strongly tinged with sulphur-yellow, instead of almost white or whitish with a slight yellow tinge. The wings and tail are not so dark as in *P. griseiceps*. The dimensions, especially of the tail, seem to be a little less. Wing 59, tail 29 mm.

Hab. Rio Madeira, Brazil. Type, No. 17680, Mus.

Vindob. ♀ ad. Salto Theotonio, Rio Madeira, 4. xi. 1829, Natterer coll.

Obs. This new species belongs to the group with a white coronal patch, and was referred by Pelzeln to *P. rostratus* (Lath.) (Orn. Bras. p. 100), which, however, is a much larger bird and has nothing to do with our new species.

Pelzeln mentioned a second specimen, from the Serra Caraumar, Rio Branco, as belonging to *P. rostratus*: but this specimen is referable to *P. senex*, Scl. & Salv., first described from Sarayacu, Ecuador. Hartert has compared the specimen collected by Natterer on the Rio Branco with the type of the latter in the British Museum, and found it to agree perfectly with it. The type of *P. nattereri* cannot be exhibited, as it has already been returned to Vienna. This new species is dedicated to the late John Natterer, to whose investigations we owe almost all our knowledge of the exact distribution of Brazilian birds.

Dr. Sclater called attention to the specimen of the Wall-Creeper (*Tichodroma muraria*) now living in the Insect-house in the Zoological Society's Gardens. It was the survivor of two placed under the Society's care by Mr. W. Rothschild on February 4th last, and seemed to be now in excellent condition, just acquiring the black on the throat. It was fed on ordinary soft food, boiled potatoes, rice, and carrots, yolk of egg and bread crumbs, with a few meal-worms. These birds were the only specimens of this beautiful species that had ever been in the Zoological Society's collection.

Dr. Sclater exhibited some of the beautiful drawings of freshly killed birds made by Dr. Edward Wilson during the voyage of the 'Discovery.' Dr. Wilson had not only obtained good series of specimens of the birds on the islet of South Trinidad and the Macquarie Islands, which the 'Discovery' had visited on the voyage out to New Zealand, but had also made accurate coloured sketches of the soft parts of all the more important specimens, which would be of great scientific value.

Mr. H. J. Elwes gave a short account of his recent visit to Chile, and of his observations on species of *Thinocorus* and *Merganetta* which he had met with.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 21st of May, 1902, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater, *Chairman.*	R. Bowdler Sharpe *(Editor).*	W. E. de Winton, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. LXXXIX.

The eighty-eighth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of May, 1902.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, B. A. E. Buttress, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), F. D. Drewitt, M.D., A. H. Evans, H. Goodchild, E. Hartert, G. E. Lodge, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, H. Munt, F. G. Penrose, M.D., H. L. Popham, H. Saunders, H. Scherren, W. L. Sclater, F. C. Selous, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), W. B. Tegetmeier, A. Thorburn, H. M. Wallis, C. Whymper.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe exhibited some specimens of rocks from the Falkland Islands, showing the 'scores' made by the Rock-Hopper Penguin (*Catarrhactes chrysocome*) in the course of time. The marks made by the feet of thousands of these birds constantly landing on the rocks were plainly perceptible. The specimens had been brought from the Falkland Islands by Mr. Rupert Vallentin.

With reference to Dr. Bianchi's note communicated to the Club at its last meeting, Mr. Oates desired to state that Dr. Sclater, many years ago (Ibis, 1890, p. 255), had pointed out that the generic name *Sittiparus* instituted by Mr. Oates (Fauna Brit. Ind., Birds, i. p. 171, 1889) for a genus of

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Passerine birds was inadmissible, as it was already preoccupied by *Sittiparus* of De Selys-Longchamps (Bull. Soc. Zool. France, ix. p. 58, 1884). Subsequently Mr. Oates (Ibis, 1894, p. 480) had substituted the name *Pseudominla* for *Sittiparus*. Dr. Bianchi's amended name of *Proparoides* was therefore unnecessary.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS drew attention to the frequent occurrence of the Spoonbill (*Platalea leucerodia*) in Norfolk during the spring of the present year, and to the efforts which were being made for its protection by Mr. J. H. Gurney and other Norfolk naturalists, in the hope that nesting might be resumed.

Mr. H. L. POPHAM exhibited some skins and eggs of rare species of Siberian Thrushes from the Yenesei Valley, among them being the eggs of *Turdus naumanni*.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited specimens of two species of Owls, which, by recent authors (*cf.* Cat. B. ii. p. 269), had been united, but which were easily distinguishable when actually compared: namely :—

CICCABA HYLOPHILA (Temm.).

Strix hylophila, Temm. Pl. Col. pl. 373 (1824, "Brésil").

This Owl was an inhabitant of Brazil. In the Rothschild Museum were two beautiful specimens from Paraná, South Brazil, collected by A. Robert.

CICCABA ALBITARSUS (Scl.).

Syrnium albotarse, Gray, Cat. Accipitr. 1848, p. 103 (nomen nudum); Bonap. Consp. Av. i. p. 52 (descr. obsc.).

Syrnium albitarse, Scl. Trans. Z. S. iv. p. 263, pl. ix. (1862; descr. princeps) (Bogotá, Colombia).

This Owl was found in the Andes of Colombia and Venezuela, and Mr. Hartert had examined Bogotá specimens in the British Museum and a fine series from Merida, collected by Mr. Salomon Briceño Gabaldón. The differences of the two forms were as follows :—

Ciccaba hylophila.—Upper third or half of the toes feathered. Feathers of abdomen white, light ochraceous or buff towards the base, tipped with dark brown, and crossed by equally wide and straight bands of the latter colour. All primaries barred. Breast ochraceous, barred with blackish brown. Upper surface deep brown and light ochraceous, the feathers of the hind-neck and back with a blackish bar between the blackish tip and base.

Ciccaba albitarsus.—Toes entirely bare up to the base of the tarsus. Feathers of abdomen white, ochraceous towards the base, then crossed by a brown bar, which is widest in the middle and connected along the shaft with the tip, which may be deep or bright rufous or foxy brown. Outermost primaries generally not barred or obsoletely so. Breast more rufous, barred with blackish brown. Upper surface blackish brown and deep ochraceous, more tinged with rufous; the feathers of the hind-neck and back black at the base and on the tip, sometimes only with an additional black bar between. The white feathering of the tarsi was not a peculiarity of this Owl, as the tarsi were mostly covered with ochraceous or buff feathers, and sometimes spotted with brown.

Mr. Ernst Hartert also exhibited a remarkable new Bullfinch, which he described as follows:—

PYRRHULA WATERSTRADTI, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Upperside ashy brown, paler on the head; rump blue-black, crossed by a white bar; upper tail-coverts and rectrices purplish black, with velvety black narrow tips; remiges and primary-coverts blackish; secondaries deep purplish blue on the outer webs, the innermost ones on both webs, and edged with white on the inner webs, the small innermost secondary purplish blue-black, the greater portion of the outer web red. Underside drab (Ridgw. Nomencl. Col. iii. p. 18). Ear-coverts pale drab-grey, upper portion and feathers above the ear-coverts white. Under tail-coverts white. Under wing-coverts ashy grey, mostly with white tips; axillaries white. Wing 81, tail 75, tarsus 14, width of bill at base 10, culmen 13 mm.

One pair in moult had been obtained on Mount Tahan (5000–7000 feet) in North Pahang, Eastern Malay Peninsula, by Mr. Waterstradt's hunters in October 1901.

Obs. Named in compliment to Mr. John Waterstradt, who made a successful ascent of the great Mount Tahan. His collection of birds is in Mr. Rothschild's museum at Tring.

This Bullfinch stands quite by itself. *Pyrrhula leucogenys* from Luzon resembles it in the white sides of the head and the general brownish coloration, but it has the crown and chin black, the former with blue-black edges to the feathers, and it has also ochraceous-buff under tail-coverts. The bill of *Pyrrhula waterstradti* is very broad and flattened on the top.

Mr. E. G. B. Meade-Waldo gave a most interesting account of his recent explorations in the Atlas Mountains and other parts of Morocco. Among the birds noticed were *Comatibis eremita, Ruticilla moussieri, Falco barbarus, Cypselus koenigi, Fringillaria saharæ,* &c. A full account of the birds observed by Mr. Meade-Waldo would appear in the 'Ibis.'

Mr. H. Munt exhibited eggs of the Sumatran Ground-Cuckoo (*Carpococcyx viridis*) and of other interesting species.

Mr. William Sclater exhibited two specimens of Coots (*Fulica*) belonging to the South-African Museum, Cape Town. The first of these, which had been obtained in the immediate neighbourhood of Durban by Mr. T. Butler, the Museum Collector, in 1891, was very different from the ordinary South-African Coot (*Fulica cristata*) and resembled in every way one of the South-American species (*Fulica leucopyga*), with which it had been carefully compared. There was no reason to believe that there had been any mistake in labelling this bird, so that its occurrence in South Africa was a very curious phenomenon.

The second specimen had been obtained in the immediate neighbourhood of Cape Town, and appeared to be a very interesting partial albino of the ordinary African species (*Fulica cristata*). The throat, neck, primary quills, and a patch on the abdomen were pure white.

Mr. William Sclater also gave an account of the progress of the "Birds" in his 'Fauna of South Africa." The first two volumes, of which one had been passed through the press by the late Dr. Stark and the other had been edited from his notes, had been published. These finished the account of the Passeres. The third volume, prepared by Mr. Sclater with some assistance from Dr. Stark's MSS., and containing the Picariæ, Accipitres, and Striges, was now ready for press, and it was hoped that a fourth volume would conclude the work.

Dr. Sclater read some extracts from a letter addressed to him by Capt. G. E. H. Barrett-Hamilton (5th Royal Irish Rifles), dated Vredefort Road, Orange River Colony, in which he stated that he had already managed to get together a collection of some 800 birds, besides other animals. Capt. Barrett-Hamilton had forwarded a small white egg, which he believed to be that of the Pin-tailed Widow-bird (*Vidua principalis*). Stark (B. S. Afr. i. p. 147) had said the egg of this bird "had not been described." The specimen had been taken by Lieut. Luard, of the R. West Kent Regt., who had found it near Frankfort, O.R.C., on his march, and had written to Capt. Barrett-Hamilton as follows :—"I saw the bird fly from the grass. The nest was on the ground—circular, entirely covered in, made of grass and lined with very fine grass : it contained four eggs lying points inwards."

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 18th of June, 1902, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street ; the Dinner at 7 p.m.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater,	R. Bowdler Sharpe	W. E. de Winton,
Chairman.	(*Editor*).	*Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XC.

The eighty-ninth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of June, 1902.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. C. Stuart Baker, J. C. Baker, E. Bidwell, Col. C. T. Bingham, J. L. Bonhote, W. Ruskin Butterfield, B. A. E. Buttress, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, F. W. Frohawk, C. Garnett, H. Goodchild, F. H. Carruthers Gould, E. Hartert, H. Munt, M. J. Nicoll, E. W. Oates, T. Parkin, C. E. Pearson, F. Penrose, M.D., A. E. Price, A. D. Sapsworth, W. L. Sclater, F. C. Selous, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), D. Seth Smith, W. B. Tegetmeier, J. I. S. Whitaker.

Visitors: Col. Hanbury Barclay, F. Coburn, Guy Marshall, Oscar Neumann, E. Renton, A. St. G. Sargeaunt, J. F. Walker.

Mr. Oscar Neumann exhibited a specimen of the true *Otus abyssinicus*, Guér., the first specimen of this Owl ever seen in England. It fitted well the description and plate given in the work of Ferret and Galinier. The type of this species had never reached the Paris Museum, and its present existence was not known, but two other specimens of this bird, obtained by Heuglin, were in the Vienna Museum. This

[*June* 30*th*, 1902.]

Owl lived in the high mountains of Abyssinia, at an elevation between 10,000 and 13,000 feet. It was a typical *Asio*, on account of the shape of the wing-feathers, and had the large ear-openings characteristic of the genus, as diagnosed by Mr. Pycraft.

Mr. Neumann also pointed out that the bird called *Bubo abyssinicus* by Sharpe and Hawker in recent papers on the birds of Somali-land was a lowland bird, and was, in his opinion, only a reddish form of *Bubo cinerascens.* All these reddish birds seemed to be males, and occurred together with typical females of *Bubo cinerascens,* as was proved by a pair collected by Hawker at Jifa Uri (Somali-land) and another pair obtained by him at Kaka on the White Nile.

Another very rare bird in Abyssinia, which occurred at about the same height, was *Bubo capensis dilloni*, Prév. & des Murs. Mr. Neumann did not meet with this species on his last journey, but had examined the type in the Paris Museum. It proved to belong to the *B. capensis* group, and not to the group of *Bubo maculosus,* of which Prof. Reichenow had made it a synonym in his work 'Die Vögel Afrikas.'

Prof. Reichenow was therefore wrong in denying the occurrence of *Bubo capensis* in Abyssinia, and in suggesting that the bird so called might be *Bubo ascalaphus* or *Asio abyssinicus.* So far as Mr. Neumann could judge, there were three geographical forms of *Bubo capensis* to be distinguished:—

1. Bubo capensis, Smith. Cape Colony.

2. Bubo capensis mackinderi, Sharpe. Kenya.

Larger than the typical form and pure white below, not yellowish with large triangular spots.

3. Bubo capensis dilloni, Prév. & des Murs.

Larger than the typical form and nearly white below, with distinct bars and no large spots.

Type in the Paris Museum. Another specimen collected by Traversi near Antoto (Shoa) was in the Florence Museum, and two examples were in the British Museum—the one procured by Sir C. Harris near Ankober (Shoa), the other by Mr. Jesse in the Senafe Pass. The last specimen had the bars of the under surface still more distinct than in the Ankober bird. Not one of the three specimens examined could be confounded with *Bubo ascalaphus.*

Mr. NEUMANN also made some remarks on the type of *Centropus nigrorufus,* Cuv., which he had seen in Paris. The species proved to be not an African bird at all, but the bird afterwards called *Centropus purpureus,* the exact habitat of which was not yet known for certain. The first specimen was said to have come from Mindanao and others from Sumatra; but, so far as Mr. Neumann was aware, no specimen had ever been obtained by any European collector in Sumatra within the last twenty years.

The type in Paris agreed very well with Levaillant's plate and description of his "Coucal noirou mâle," on which Cuvier's *Centropus nigrorufus* had been founded, as well as Vieillot's *Corydonyx bicolor.* Only the extreme scarcity of the Sumatran bird and the erroneous statement of Levaillant that he had shot two specimens of this bird on the Swart River in South Africa, could account for the fact that these two totally distinct birds had been so long confounded.

The African bird must bear the name of *Centropus grilli,* Hartl., founded on a young specimen, said to have been obtained on the Gaboon; but it was worth mentioning that this was the only record for this species in West Africa, since all other specimens of *Centropus grilli,* as the bird must be called now, were collected in South and East Africa, and Mr. Neumann himself was the first to discover the species in North-east Africa. Two specimens were procured in the swamps of the Akobo River, where the bird seemed to occur plentifully.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition and description the following new birds:—

HYPOTÆNIDIA KUEHNI, n. sp.

♂ ♀ *ad.* Upper surface deep olive-brown, with light olive-brown edges to the feathers and no indication of a rufous patch on the sides of the chest; a broad blackish superciliary band, followed by a broad white band from the base of the bill to the sides of the neck. Under surface black, each feather with two or three narrow white bars, the basal one of which is mostly interrupted and sometimes absent; all these white bars obsolete or only very narrow on the throat. Iris brownish red; bill blackish, with crimson line near the base; feet dull brown.

Wing, ♂ 175, ♀ 169 mm.; tail, ♂ 75, ♀ 70; tarsus 54; middle toe without claw 45.

Hab. Tukan Bessi Islands, S.E. of Celebes.

Obs. This new species is nearest to *H. sulcirostris* from the Sula Islands, but differs in the deep olive-brown upper side, which in *H. sulcirostris* is brown with a strong rufous tinge, especially on the wings; the wing is also longer. *H. kuehni* is also very close to *H. saturata* from New Guinea and Salwatti, but differs in the darker and less uniform upper side, the throat not entirely black, and the larger wing. *H. celebensis* is much smaller, with a much shorter bill, and has a paler, more olive upper surface.

The new species is named after Mr. Heinrich Kühn, who has succeeded in making a collection on the hitherto zoologically unexplored Tukan Bessi Islands.

FRANCOLINUS COQUI ANGOLENSIS, n. subsp.

Differs from typical *Francolinus coqui* from the Transvaal and other places in having much narrower and more numerous black bars to the feathers of the entire under surface; the back and rump are slightly deeper brown and the lesser upper wing-coverts rather more uniform greyish.

Hab. Angola. Two males collected by Mr. Hubert C. Pemberton at Bailundu (type) and on the Cuanza River.

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited a new Sand-Martin from S.W. Africa, which he characterized as follows:—

COTILE PEMBERTONI, n. sp.

C. supra griseo-brunnea, apicibus plumarum paullo pallidioribus; remigibus fuscis; cauda fusca, profunde incisa; gutture, collo antico, pectoris lateribus, axillaribusque griseo-brunneis, notæo pallidioribus; præpectore medio et gastræo toto reliquo albis; subalaribus griseo-brunneis, apicibus albidis; rostro pedibusque nigris. Long. tot. circa 130 mm., alæ 103–109, caudæ 54–57 (incis. 8), metatars. 10.

Hab. Angola, ad flumen Cuanza.

Obs. This very interesting Sand-Martin differs from *C. paludicola* in being paler, especially on the throat and sides of the chest, while the middle of the chest is white up to the fore-neck. In both *C. minor* and *C. mauritanica* the grey of the throat extends to the chest, and the tail is less deeply cut out, while *C. minor* is decidedly smaller. *C. mauritanica* is extremely close to *C. minor*, but not to *C. paludicola*, and differs from *C. minor* in being larger, but is very little paler at all, if specimens procured at the same time of the year are compared.

C. pembertoni is named after Mr. Hubert C. Pemberton, who collected four specimens at Dondo on the Cuanza River, on June 8th, 1901.

Mr. Hartert further exhibited specimens of *Textor niger*, collected at Hector Spruit, in the Transvaal, by Lt.-Col. W. Giffard, showing the remarkable development of the penis peculiar to the species of the genus *Textor*. This penis was, as far as he was aware, unique among the Passeres, a visible penis in birds being generally unknown to exist, except in *Struthionidæ* and *Anatidæ* and a few other large birds. There was nothing to be found in recent literature about this penis, but Lesson (Traité d'Orn. 1831, p. 433) had already described it fully, saying: "Le mâle de cette espèce offre la particularité très remarquable d'avoir une verge longue de quatre à six lignes, et de l'introduire dans le cloaque de la femelle. . . Cette verge est très apparente dans les peaux, mais surtout très visible chez les individus vivans." Afterwards Rüppell and Heuglin had shortly mentioned the fact, quoting Lesson. The Kafirs of the Transvaal were not aware of the nature of this growth, saying that it is used to carry sticks to the nest and to hang on to the nest. There could, however, be no doubt about the nature of this appendage, and it would be interesting to get specimens in spirits for anatomical investigation.

Dr. **Bowdler Sharpe** remarked that there was a specimen in the British Museum showing this development. The individual in question was formerly in his own collection, and was purchased by him in 1869 from the Maison Verreaux. The peculiar penis had been pointed out to him in 1870 by the late Jules Verreaux.

Mr. W. **Ruskin Butterfield** exhibited a specimen of *Saxicola caterinæ*, Whitaker, shot in Sussex. This is the Western form of the Black-eared Chat (*S. aurita*, Temm.), and although a more or less common breeding species in Southern Europe, it was not known to have previously visited the British Islands.

The specimen, a male, had been shot by a man named Williams, near Polegate, Sussex, on May 28th, 1902. It had been received for preservation by Mr. George Bristow, of St. Leonard's, and examined in the flesh by Mr. Butterfield.

Mr. J. I. **Whitaker** made some remarks on the specimen exhibited by Mr. Butterfield, and has forwarded the following summary of his observations :—" In the 'Ibis' for 1898, p. 625, I wrote a short article pointing out the distinctness of the Black-eared Chat found in North-west Africa and South-west Europe from that occurring in the rest of Southern Europe, in Asia Minor, and in North-east Africa, and described the former as a new species under the name of *S. caterinæ*.

" The following is an extract of what I wrote on the subject, pointing out the differences of the two forms (*vide* Ibis, 1898, p. 625) :—

" 'Temminck's description of *S. aurita* (Man. d'Orn. i. 1820, p. 241) is so vague that it might apply equally to either the Eastern or the Western Black-eared Chat. Owing, however, to the kindness of Dr. Otto Finsch, of the Rijks Museum at Leiden, where Temminck's collection is preserved, I have been able to ascertain that Temminck's specimens of Black-eared Chats are from South France, Italy, Egypt, Bogosland, and Arabia, and that they all agree in having the under surface of the wing *black*. Dr. Finsch was unable to inform me which particular specimen might have served Temminck as his type, but presumably his description was taken from one of these examples, or from one similar to them; and seeing that these specimens all have the under surface of the wing black, we are justified in concluding that Temminck's description of *S. aurita* applies to the Eastern and not to the Western Black-eared Chat, which has the under surface of the wing of a light colour.

"'This is indeed all the more probable when we consider that the Eastern Black-eared Chat is the species found throughout the greater part of Southern Europe, as well as in Asia Minor and North-east Africa, while the Western species, so far as I have been able to ascertain, with the exception perhaps of an occasional straggler, occurs only in North-west Africa, South Spain, Sicily, and one or two other West Mediterranean coast districts.

"'Hemprich and Ehrenberg's descriptions of *S. aurita*, var. *libyca*, and *S. amphileuca* (Symb. Phys. 1829, or Symb. Aves, 1833) are also rather vague, but probably both refer to the Eastern Black-eared Chat, and must therefore be considered as synonyms of *S. aurita*, Temm. These ornithologists may have had before them examples of the same species, but in different stages of plumage.'"

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe exhibited some interesting specimens of birds recently forwarded by Mr. G. L. Bates from Efulen in the Cameroons in West Africa. A species of great interest was the adult of *Lophotriorchis lucani*, a Hawk-Eagle previously known only from immature specimens. The adult male was black above and pure white below, with the exception of a black patch on the sides of the lower breast, and black tips to the thigh-feathers and the under tail-coverts, &c. The axillaries and the inner series of the under wing-coverts are also black, but the quill-lining was white.

Another interesting species sent by Mr. Bates was the true *Indicator conirostris* of Cassin. The receipt of these skins from Cameroons showed that they agreed perfectly with the description and figure given by Cassin, but they proved also that the birds from the Gold Coast referred to *I. conirostris* in the 'Catalogue of Birds' were not identical with the Gaboon species, and Dr. Sharpe therefore proposed for them the name of

INDICATOR USSHERI, n. sp.

Similis *I. conirostri*, sed capite aureo-olivaceo, dorso concolore, et gastræo pallidiore griseo, olivaceo-flavo lavato, distinguendus. Long. tot. 6·0 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 4·65, caudæ 1·35, tarsi 0·6.

Typus ex Fantee (*H. T. Ussher*: Mus. Brit.).

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT described a new Bunting, obtained by Mr. Bury in Southern Arabia :—

FRINGILLARIA DTHALÆ, n. sp.

Adult male. Resembles *F. insularis*, Grant & Forbes (from Socotra), in the generally paler rufous colour of the underparts, but is distinguished by having all the feathers of the crown edged with white. In *F. insularis* the tracts between the white stripes are uniform black. The tail in the present form is, moreover, longer, and measures 2·4 to 2·6 inches, whereas in the Socotra form it does not exceed 2·2.

Adult female. Resembles the female of *F. insularis*, but the tail is somewhat longer.

Hab. Dthala, South-western Arabia.

Mr. F. COBURN exhibited an adult male specimen of *Anser rubrirostris*, Hodgson, one of five specimens received by him from Limerick, Ireland, on November 23rd, 1901, and pointed out some of the characters which separated this eastern form from *A. cinereus.* In addition to the generally paler coloration of its plumage, the distinct white band at the base and sides of bill, the much blacker underparts, and very distinct coloration of the bill and legs, a striking structural character, which was noticeable in all five specimens, and had previously been remarked upon by Hume, was the fact that the wing gave the large measurement of $19\frac{1}{4}$ inches against 18 inches in the largest specimen of *A. cinereus* in his collection. It did not, however, reach the end of the tail by 1 inch, whereas in all specimens of the latter bird the wings reached to, or slightly beyond, the end of tail. This gave to *A. rubrirostris* a longer and more slender body than *A. cinereus.* These observations had been made on the five specimens *before* they were skinned. Mr. Stuart Baker had since fully identified this specimen as being the *A. rubrirostris* he had met with in India.

Mr. Coburn also exhibited a curious specimen of a Bean Goose (*Anser fabalis*) shot on the 25th February, 1896, at St. Abb's Head, Scotland. Mr. Eugene W. Oates and Mr. Stuart Baker had kindly examined this bird, which was found to differ in size and coloration of bill from all specimens of Grey Geese in the National Collection. In size and shape the bill approached nearest to that of *A. neglectus,* but it was of a clear dull orange-yellow colour from *base to nail,* the latter being black. There was a remarkable and sharply-defined elongated patch of black on the centre of the culmen, which did not reach the base of the bill by a quarter of an inch. The bird was of large size, and a further remarkable character was that the neck, measured from the flesh, was nearly 3 inches longer than in any specimen of *A. fabalis* in Mr. Coburn's collection.

It had been suggested that this bird might be regarded as a new species, but further material was needed. There were traces of black on the underparts, and a white patch of feathers was present at the base of the bill.

Mr. H. Munt made some remarks on an egg of the Satin Bower-bird (*Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*) which he had exhibited at the last Meeting. This egg had been laid by a bird in confinement, and no possibility of an incorrect identification existed; but as Dr. Bowdler Sharpe had been inclined to doubt the authenticity of the egg in question, Mr. Munt had made a further study of the subject, and had found that his egg fully coincided with those described and figured by Mr. Campbell and Mr. North in Australia.

Dr. Sharpe apologized to Mr. Munt for having for a moment suggested that there had been some mis-identification of this extraordinary egg, and he was quite satisfied that it was really the egg of a Satin Bower-bird, as stated by Mr. Munt.

Mr. W. L. **Sclater** exhibited an example of a small Rail (*Porzana marginalis,* Hartl.), recently obtained by Mr. Bristow in the neighbourhood of East London in Cape Colony, and presented to the South African Museum by the same gentleman. This species had been described by Hartlaub from a specimen obtained in the Gaboon by Aubry Lecomte; it had been also obtained at Ondonga in Ovampoland by Andersson, but had not hitherto been met with elsewhere in South Africa. It was not represented in the British Museum, and appeared to be a rare bird.

Mr. F. W. **Frohawk** gave an account of the nesting of *Anser albifrons* in captivity, and the hatching of one young bird in the extensive grounds belonging to Mr. Jos. F. Green at Blackheath. The nest was built on a bank some distance (about 30 yards) from a long sheet of water; five eggs formed the clutch, three of which were addled, one broken, and one hatched. The nest was much compressed, being flush with the ground, evidently caused by the excess of wet weather, which no doubt had some ill-effect on the eggs. The young bird was seen swimming between five adults in single file; they all landed and began feeding at once. As they were on the opposite shore of the lake, the precise colouring of the soft parts of the young bird could not be plainly seen, but both bill and feet appeared to be of a purplish brown. None of the Geese were pinioned, and were in the habit of taking long flights over the district, always returning to the grounds where they had now been for some years. One of the addled eggs, a clean perfect specimen, was exhibited; it measured exactly $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches by $2\frac{1}{10}$ inches.

Mr. E. **Bidwell** read a letter addressed to Mr. T. W. Proger, of Cardiff, by Mr. R. W. Llewellyn, of Briton Ferry, in which the writer described a visit to the Casquets Lighthouse on May 14, 1902. During the early morning previous to his arrival there had been a great rush of birds, and on the rocks below the Lighthouse he had found from two to three hundred dead birds, almost all of them being said to consist of Red-breasted Flycatchers (*Muscicapa parva*).

Mr. H. E. **Dresser** exhibited some rare eggs obtained by Mr. Zarudny on his last expedition to Transcapia and Persia, viz. those of *Passer yatei*, *Passer griseogularis*, *Passer ammodendri*, *Bucanetes obsoletus*, *Saxicola persica*, *Saxicola chrysopygia*, *Sylvia althea*, *Cuculus himalayensis* (with eggs of *Pratincola caprata*), *Galerita magna*, *Cinnyris brevirostris*, *Butalis sibirica*, *Caprimulgus unwini*, *Burnesia lepida*, *Acrocephalus stentoreus*, and *Ammomanes phœnicuroides*. This last belonged to the form recently differentiated and described by Mr. Hartert (Bull. B. O. C. xii. p. 43) under the name *Ammomanes cinctura zarudnii*.

Mr. Dresser also spoke of some of the interesting species noticed by him during his recent visit to Hungary and Bosnia.

Mr. **Bonhote** gave an account of his recent expedition to the Bahamas, and exhibited the nest of a Scarlet Flamingo (*Phœnicopterus ruber*), made of mud. He also gave some interesting details respecting the Shearwaters.

Dr. **Bowdler Sharpe** remarked on the species of *Chalcopelia*, with respect to the observations of Freiherr von Erlanger (Orn. MB. 1901, p. 183) that *C. afra* and *C. chalcospilus* were distinct. Dr. Sharpe believed that there were four species of the genus—one with green metallic wing-spots (*C. chalcospilus*) and three with purplish or bluish purple spots. Of these two appeared to be unnamed:—

Chalcopelia abyssinica, n. sp.

C. pedibus in exuvie *aurantiacis*; rostro nigricante, haud aurantiaco terminato; notæo pallidiore, potius grises-

centi-brunneo; rectricibus medianis griseis, nigro terminatis; gastræo delicate vinaceo. Long. tot. 8·0 poll., culm. 0·65, alæ 4·2, caudæ 2·9, tarsi 0·65.

Typus ex Kokai, Bogos Land (*W. Jesse*: Mus. Brit.).

CHALCOPELIA DELICATULA, n. sp.

C. pedibus in exuvie *nigricantibus*; rostro *nigro*; notæo et tectricibus alarum grisescenti-brunneis; pileo et facie laterali dilute cinereis; fronte et regione oculari albis. Long. tot. 7·5 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 4·1, caudæ 2·8, tarsi 0·65.

Typus ex Goz-Abu-Gumar, White Nile (*R. M. Hawker*: Mus. Brit.).

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 22nd of October, 1902, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, *Chairman.*	R. BOWDLER SHARPE (*Editor*).	W. E. DE WINTON, *Sec. & Treas.*

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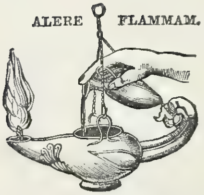
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RED LION COURT, FLEET STREET.

PREFACE.

The last Session of the B. O. C. was especially successful, and the descriptions of the many new species from Fernando Po discovered by Lieut. Boyd Alexander, from the Ruwenzori Range by Mr. F. J. Jackson, and from Yun-nan by Colonel Rippon, would suffice to make this Session remarkable in the history of the Club.

As heretofore, the B. O. C. has been greatly indebted to the Hon. Walter Rothschild for the exhibition of examples of the new and rare species acquired by him during the past twelvemonth; while the interesting specimens from Mr. Witherby's expedition to Persia have afforded material for discussion at more than one of the meetings.

The occurrence of several birds for the first time in Great Britain has been made known in the pages of this 'Bulletin,' and many new species of great interest have been described by Capt. Shelley, Col. Bingham, and other ornithologists.

It is to be hoped that the efforts of the Club to prevent the extermination of the Kite as a British species will be attended with favourable results.

(Signed) R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

October 1*st*, 1903.

RULES

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

(*As amended 20th April,* 1898.)

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session, shall cease, *ipso facto,* to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. Members of the British Ornithologists' Union may be introduced as Visitors at the Meetings of the Club, but every Member of the Club who introduces a Member of the B. O. U. as a Visitor (to dinner or to the Meeting afterwards) shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer, *on each occasion.*

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription.* Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*; with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter Bye-laws.

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White, S. J.; Oakfield, Crayford.

[Members are requested to keep the Secretary informed of any changes in their addresses.]

LIST OF AUTHORS

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BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XCI.

The ninetieth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 22nd of October, 1902.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. C. Stuart Baker, J. C. Baker, J. L. Bonhote, R. A. Crowley, F. Curtis, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, F. D. Drewitt, M.D., Rev. Allan Ellison, C. Garnett, H. Goodchild, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, E. Hartert, Major H. Jones, G. E. Lodge, A. McL. Marshall, J. McL. Marshall, H. Munt, R. Nesham, M. J. Nicoll, E. W. Oates, C. E. Pearson, H. J. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, M.D., A. E. Price, W. P. Pycraft, R. H. Read, Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P., A. St. G. Sargeaunt, Howard Saunders, F. C. Selous, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), W. B. Tegetmeier, A. Thorburn, N. F. Ticehurst, H. M. Wallis, Watkin Watkins, Chas. Whymper, J. I. S. Whitaker, H. F. Witherby.

Guests: R. H. Beck, J. C. Crowley, C. E. Fagan, W. Curtis Green, Chas. Haigh, F. R. Ratcliff.

The Chairman opened the Meeting with the following address:—

[*October* 31*st*, 1902.]

Smithsonian Institution
JAN 12 1903

BROTHER MEMBERS OF THE B. O. C.,—

On opening the Eleventh Session of the British Ornithologists' Club and on the occasion of their Ninetieth Meeting, I beg leave to say a few words before the ordinary business of the Meeting is commenced. In so doing I propose to confine my remarks to the geographical side of Ornithology, that being, I think I may say, the branch of our science in which most of us are mainly interested, although, as Editor of 'The Ibis,' I have always endeavoured to secure contributions relating to every branch of our subject. It was to Geographical Ornithology—that is, to the study of the birds of the different countries of the whole world—that the minds of the founders of the B. O. U. were principally directed when they founded the Society in 1858, and the Meeting at which we are gathered together to-night is, in fact, a selection of the most active Members of the Union, who love to run about the world and to collect birds in every land.

I will therefore shortly allude to certain works now being published or recently issued in each of the six great Zoological Regions.

I. PALÆARCTIC REGION.

In the Palæarctic Region there is always a large amount of ornithological work in process, but there is not much at the present moment to which I need call your attention. Mr. Dresser, I am told, is hard at work on his 'Manual of Western Palæarctic Birds'—a subject which has always claimed his principal attention. We may hope, I believe, in the course of next year, to witness the publication of his long promised volume on this subject, which will be of the greatest interest to all of us. On the Continent, Herr Reiser has, we are pleased to hear, the portion of the 'Ornis Balcanica' relating to Greece in an advanced state, and we may hope that this important work will shortly be completed.

Mr. H. F. Witherby has lately returned from his ornithological excursion in Persia, and we are pleased to see him with us here to-night. Faithful and true, he promises that the scientific report on the birds met with during his journey shall be published in 'The Ibis' when completed. Looking towards the Eastern horizon I am not aware that our Russian friends, who are always on the alert, have lately made great advances, but fresh collections, I am told, are always coming to St. Petersburg from the "Far East," and now that the great Siberian railway is open, the facilities of communication in that direction will be vastly improved. I can recommend no more easy nor more interesting excursion for some of our younger Members than to run out to Lake Baikal, or some other good station in North-eastern Asia, early in the year and watch the migrants as they come up from the South. There is, of course, in the Russian and Chinese Empires an enormous field for future ornithological travellers. We have lately received for 'The Ibis' an excellent paper by Capt. H. J. Walton, on the Birds of the City of Pekin, which is almost a new place for the collector.

Whether Egypt is best referable to the Palæarctic or to the Ethiopian Region is perhaps a little doubtful. I am, however, rather inclined to the Palæarctic view, and, before quitting this heading, I wish again to emphasize the statement that a new volume on the 'Birds of Egypt' is a great desideratum in Ornithology. Capt. Shelley's excellent work on this subject (now out of print) was published in 1872 and a new edition is much required. It was the intention of the late Dr. Anderson to have supplied this want, when he had finished the Mammals and Fishes of Egypt, and we have great hopes of being able to induce the Egyptian authorities to meet this much pressing claim in the shape of a fourth volume of the series projected by Dr. Anderson.

II. Oriental Region.

Little has been done in the Oriental Region, vast as it is, to which it is necessary to call attention on the present occasion, but, in spite of the numerous collectors who have ransacked so many spots of this widely-extended fauna, much remains to be done. That great progress is being made is, however, evident to those who study the pages of the 'Novitates Zoologicæ,' where the perpetual accessions made to the Tring Museum from this quarter are assiduously registered. Colonel Rippon's recent expedition to Yun-nan (*vide infra*, p. 11) and Dr. Abbott's explorations in the Malay Archipelago deserve more than a passing record, and we hear that our friend Mr. Rickett has lately forwarded a large collection of Chinese birds to the Natural History Museum.

III. ETHIOPIAN REGION.

It is the Ethiopian Region that has occupied most of the pages of 'The Ibis' during the last few years, and, as we know Africa is always producing something new, this is long likely to be the case. Although Sir Harry Johnston made a successful attack on Ruwenzori, his time was too limited on that occasion to allow him to collect birds, except the one beautiful Turacou (*Gallirex johnstoni*) which deservedly bears his name. We are pleased to hear, however, that a good series of the birds of Ruwenzori has lately been collected by Mr. Archer and forwarded to the British Museum by Mr. F. J. Jackson (*vide infra*). I have also received with great pleasure the intelligence that Mr. Doggett has been placed by the Uganda Government on the Staff of Major Delmé Radcliffe, who is surveying the boundary between German and British East Africa. The addition of a Naturalist to this Expedition, which unfortunately started without one, will be a great gratification to zoologists.

On the Western coast of Africa our friend Capt. Boyd Alexander is as busy as usual. He has again traversed the Gold Coast Colony and picked up all the possible additions he could make to his former researches in this country. He has now returned to Western Africa in order to make further explorations in Fernando Po and other neighbouring localities.

Passing to the Southern extremity of the African continent, I am able to state that the MS. of Mr. W. L. Sclater's third volume on the 'Birds of South Africa' has been finished, and that he is now engaged in correcting the printed proofs. This volume will contain an account of the Picariæ, Striges, and Accipitres, and a fourth volume will complete the work.

IV. NEARCTIC REGION.

The Nearctic Region we may safely leave in the hands of our American brethren. The first volume of Mr. Ridgway's great work on the Birds of North and Middle America (which has been noticed in the July number of 'The Ibis') includes the birds of Panama and the Galápagos Islands, and, when completed, will give us an excellent summary of our knowledge of the Nearctic Avifauna. Some of us may doubt the wisdom of multitudinous subspecies, and not quite agree with a nomenclature in which casual errors and grammatical mistakes are proposed to be stereotyped for all ages. But none of us can doubt the solidity of Mr. Ridgway's work or the careful way in which it has been prepared, and we wish him every success in completing his arduous task.

V. NEOTROPICAL REGION.

Our American brethren, having already annexed the Trans-Panamanic division of the Neotropical Region, have of late years pushed their researches into the northern portion of the adjacent Colombian Subregion. Several papers by Mr. Bangs and other ornithologists on the birds of Santa Marta have lately been noticed in 'The Ibis,' and we need not say more about them on the present occasion. We have also lately had excellent contributions to our knowledge of the birds of the tropics of South America from Graf von Berlepsch, Mr. Hartert, and other ornithologists. It may suffice to say here that, in spite of all that has been already done, an enormous field of ornithological work still remains to be explored in the centre of the Neotropical Region. The most southern part of it is not so productive in bird-life, and has been much more thoroughly worked, though we may expect that Mr. W. E. D. Scott's account of the birds of the expedition of the Princeton University to Antarctic America will add materially to our knowledge.

VI. Australian Region.

As regards the Australian Region we need say little on the present occasion. The formation of the Australian Ornithological Union and its proceedings have been duly chronicled in 'The Ibis' and in the 'Bulletin' of this Club. It was quite fitting that the union of Australia under one Government should synchronize with the foundation of such an institution, and we cordially wish it every sort of success. That new species still remain to be discovered even in the well-worked continent of Australia is evident from a contribution on the subject which appeared in the last 'Ibis.' In the northern portion of the Australian Region, in New Guinea and the adjoining islands, there are, of course, unlimited possibilities of future discoveries.

I am also pleased to be able to announce that Mr. M. J. Nicoll, a Member of our Union and Club, has been invited to accompany the Earl of Crawfurd in his winter-tour round the world in the steam-yacht 'Valhalla.' After passing through the Straits of Magellan, Lord Crawfurd proposes to visit all the island-groups of the Southern Pacific, where Mr. Nicoll will have opportunities for studying ornithology.

Major H. Jones exhibited a series of pictures of different species of *Anatidæ* painted by himself. These paintings were very much admired by the ornithologists present.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild exhibited specimens of the land-birds of Cocos Island, midway between the Galápagos Islands and Costa Rica. The land-birds of Cocos Island were:—*Coccyzus ferrugineus*, Gould, *Nesotriccus ridgwayi*, Towns., and *Cocornis agassizi*, Towns. The latter he considered to be a thin-billed *Geospiza*, of which several species were exhibited in order to show the variability of the bill in that genus.

Mr. Rothschild also exhibited specimens of the recently-described *Micranous diamesus*, Heller and Snodgrass, and the three Gannets with sooty-brown backs, viz. *Sula sula*, *Sula brewsteri*, and *Sula nesiotes*, Heller and Snodgrass. Besides explaining the differences of the three forms, he called attention to the larger dimensions of the females, especially as regarded the size of their bills.

Mr. Rothschild then read a paper on a hitherto overlooked species of Gannet, of which he exhibited specimens :—

"Until the publication of Volume xxvi. of the 'Catalogue of Birds,' the species of the genus *Sula* were but little understood. Mr. Ogilvie-Grant has done good work and cleared up many doubtful points, but owing to the universal lack of series and the extraordinary changes of plumage undergone by these birds, there are still many points to clear up.

"In the present case Mr. Grant identified the Galápagos Masked Gannet as the adult of *Sula variegata*; while what he described as the youngest stage of *Sula variegata* is really the young of *Sula nebouxi*. Mr. Beck has now sent specimens of the young in various stages of the Galápagos Masked Gannet, which prove it to be distinct from *S. variegata*. I therefore have much pleasure in naming it **Sula granti**. It is described as the adult of *S. variegata*, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxvi. p. 434."

Mr. R. H. Beck was warmly congratulated by the members on the success of his recent expedition to the Galápagos Archipelago.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe exhibited specimens of the following new species from the Ruwenzori range, obtained by Mr. Frederick J. Jackson, C.B. :—

Cuculus jacksoni, n. sp.

♂. Similis *C. gabonensi*, sed abdomine et subcaudalibus latè nigro transfasciatis distinguendus : rostro nigro ; pedibus pallidè brunneis, plantis albidis ; iride brunnea. Long. tot. 11·5 poll., culm. 0·95, alæ 6·5, caudæ 5·6, tarsi 0·7.

Hab. Toro, March 21, 1902.

Obs. This is no doubt the same species as the bird from Kavirondo mentioned by Reichenow, Vög. Afrikas, ii. p. 88.

MESOPICUS RUWENZORI, n. sp.

Similis *M. spodocephalo* et rostro toto nigro, sed saturatior, corpore subtus et facie laterali sordidè schistaceis, illo vix olivaceo lavata, plagâ abdominali rubrâ ferè obsoletâ; remigibus intus latè nigro transfasciatis, fasciis maculiformibus albis æqualibus distinguendus. Long. tot. 7·3 poll., culm. 1·1, alæ 4·6, caudæ 2·5, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Ruwenzori, Feb. 24, 1902.

CRYPTOSPIZA JACKSONI, n. sp.

♂. Supra saturatè coccinea, pileo et facie laterali dorso concoloribus; occipite et collo postico, cum gastræo toto saturatè plumbeo-schistaceis; remigibus et rectricibus nigris; hypochondriis coccineis: rostro nigro; pedibus sepiariis; iride brunnea. Long. tot. 4·8 poll., culm. 0·45, alæ 2·3, caudæ 1·75, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Ruwenzori, Feb. 10, 1902.

Obs. The leaden-grey under surface at once distinguishes this species from all the other *Cryptospizæ*.

CRYPTOSPIZA OCULARIS, n. sp.

♂. Similis *C. reichenovi* ♂, sed pileo et gastræo toto olivaceo-brunneis, minimè viridibus, gulâ pallidiore distinguenda: rostro nigro; pedibus sepiariis; iride brunnea. Long. tot. 4·1 poll., culm. 0·45, alæ 2·0, caudæ 1·35, tarsi 0·65.

Hab. Ruwenzori, Feb. 10, 1902.

NECTARINIA BARAKÆ, n. sp.

♂. Præcipue *N. tacazzæ* affinis, sed valde diversa. Supra metallicè purpurascenti-cuprea; pileo undique metallicè lilacino; collo postico metallicè viridi; alis dorso concoloribus; gutture imo et colli lateribus metallicè æneis; corpore reliquo subtus metallicè violaceo-chalybeo nitente, præpectore nitide viridi distinguenda. Long. tot. 8·1 poll., culm. 0·9, alæ 2·6, caudæ 4·9, tarsi 0·7.

Hab. Ruwenzori, Feb. 14, 1902.

COSSYPHA GRISEISTRIATA, n. sp.

♀. *C. leucostictæ* affinis et tectricibus alarum albo terminatis, sed subcaudalibus rufescentibus et cauda basali castanea, pedibus saturatè schistaceo-brunneis, et præpectore griseo striato distinguenda: rostro nigro; pedibus dilutè schistaceis; iride brunnea. Long. tot. 5·8 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 2·8, caudæ 2·5, tarsi 1·05.

Hab. Near Kangow's, March 11, 1902.

COSSYPHA ARCHERI, n. sp.

♂. Similis *C. bocagei,* sed gastræo toto aurantiaco-rufo, abdomine minimè albido; facie laterali saturatè brunneo, pileo et dorso concolore: rostro nigro; pedibus sepiariis; iride coryllina. Long. tot. 6·1 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·1, caudæ 2·5, tarsi 1·3.

Hab. Ruwenzori, Feb. 22, 1902.

PHLEXIS RUFESCENS, n. sp.

♂. Similis *P. victorini,* sed notæo castaneo-brunneo: fronte, facie laterali et corpore subtus saturatè cinnamomeis; abdomine albicante, hypochondriis imis brunnescentioribus: rostro nigro; pedibus sepiariis; iride coryllina. Long. tot. 5·7 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 2·3, caudæ 2·85, tarsi 1·0.

Hab. Ruwenzori, Feb. 20, 1902.

CRYPTOLOPHA LÆTA, n. sp.

♂. Supra lætè prasina: loris, supercilio et facie laterali cum gutture toto et præpectore cervino-rufis; pectore medio et abdomine albis; corporis lateribus cinerascentibus, cervino vix lavatis; tibiis flavis: rostro brunneo, mandibula flavicante; pedibus pallidè grisescenti-viridibus; iride brunnea. Long. tot. 4·0 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·3, caudæ 1·55, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Ruwenzori, Feb. 11, 1902.

Obs. The nearest ally that I can find to this new species is *C. mackenziana,* but it is distinguished at once by its bright green upper surface.

APALIS PERSONATA, n. sp.

♂. Similis *A. binotatæ,* Reichenow, sed nigredine capitis magis extensa usque ad regionem paroticam producta, pileo postico viridi distinguenda: rostro nigro; pedibus brunnescenti-carneis; iride ochracea. Long. tot. 4·7 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 2·2, caudæ 1·95, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Ruwenzori, Feb. 11, 1902.

Obs. Closely allied to *A. binotata* from the Cameroons.

ALETHE POLIOPHRYS, n. sp.

♀. Affinis, ut videtur, *A. hypoleucæ*, Reichen., et abdomine albo, sed cauda rufa, notæo sordidè castaneo, pileo nigro, facie laterali plumbea, supercilio lato pulchrè schistaceo, gutture toto castaneo, mento cinereo, distinguenda: rostro nigro; pedibus carneo-albis; iride rufescenti-brunnea. Long. tot. 6·6 poll., culm. 0·75, alæ 3·5, caudæ 2·55, tarsi 1·15.

Hab. Ruwenzori, Feb. 12, 1902.

Obs. Evidently allied to *A. hypoleuca* (Reichen.) from the Cameroons, but without any grey on the mantle and with an entirely rufous tail.

BATHMOCERCUS JACKSONI, n. sp.

♂. Similis, ut videtur, *B. rufo* Reichen., sed capitis nigredine magis extensâ usque ad verticem medium pone oculos productâ, pectore medio quoque nigro distinguendus: rostro nigro; pedibus pallidè schistaceis. Long. tot. 5·2 poll., culm. 0·65, alæ 2·2, caudæ 2·25, tarsi 1·05.

Hab. Kibera.

TURDINUS ATRICEPS, n. sp.

♂. Notæo rufo, alis caudaque rufo marginatis; pileo toto nigerrimo; facie laterali et gastræo schistaceis, abdomine pallidiore; gutture summo nigro; hypochondriis rufescenti-fulvis: rostro nigro, mandibula et pedibus corneo-cyaneis; iride coryllina. Long. tot. 5·6 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 2·6, caudæ 2·3, tarsi 0·95.

Hab. Ruwenzori, Feb. 14, 1902.

XENOCICHLA LEUCOLÆMA, n. sp.

♂. Similis *X. albigulari*, Sharpe, sed valde major et hypochondriis viridioribus distinguenda. Long. tot. 7·0 poll., culm. 0·85, alæ 3·3, caudæ 2·95, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Toro Forest, March 19, 1902.

PYROMELANA XANTHOCHLAMYS, n. sp.

♂. Dorso postico et uropygio nigris; pileo, facie laterali gulaque nigris; interscapulio aureo; nucha et torque collari lato pulchrè aurantiaco-rubro: rostro nigro; pedibus nigricanti-brunneis; iride brunnea. Long. tot. 5·4 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·3, caudæ 2·15, tarsi 1·95.

Hab. Hoima.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe also exhibited some interesting species of birds from Yun-nan, collected by Colonel G. Rippon. Amongst these were several specimens of the splendid Siskin called by Dr. Oustalet *Chrysomitris ambigua*, which recalled some of the South-American Siskins in its appearance, but had wings like those of *Chloris sinica*.

Propasser ripponi, n. sp.

Similis *P. rhodopeplo* et maculis roseis ad apicem secundariorum intimorum insignis; dorso medio quoque roseo longitudinaliter striato, sed uropygio roseo concolore haud maculatim notato; tectricibus alarum medianis et majoribus minimè roseo terminatis; corpore subtus pallidè roseo; gutture et supercilio magis margaritaceis. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 2·8, caudæ 2·75, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Gyi-dzin-shán, W. Yun-nan.

Obs. This Rose-Finch is smaller than *P. rhodopeplus*, and has the wing-coverts edged with rosy brown, not spotted so as to form a double wing-bar.

Abrornis ripponi, n. sp.

Similis *A. schisticipiti*, sed gutture tantum flavo restricto, præpectore et pectore summo sericeo-albis, minimè flavo lavatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·3 poll., culm. 0·4, alæ 2·0, caudæ 1·75, tarsi 0·65.

Hab. Gyi-dzin-shán, east of Tali-fu, W. Yun-nan, 8000 ft.

Certhia yunnanensis, n. sp.

Similis *C. himalayanæ*, sed ubique saturatior, pileo nigricantiore, vix griseo-striato; caudâ cinerascente, nigro regulariter transfasciata, infra vix rufescente. Long. tot. 5·6 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 2·6, caudæ 2·3, tarsi 0·6.

Hab. Shayang, Ch'ü-tung road, March 15.

Anorthura talifuensis, n. sp.

Similis *A. nepalensi*, sed alæ maculis albis majoribus, et maculis regionis paroticæ rufescenti-fulvis ad latera colli extensis. Long. tot. 4·2 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 1·8, caudæ 1·2, tarsi 0·65.

Hab. Gyi-dzin-shán, east of Tali-fu.

Lophophanes pœcilopsis, n. sp.

Similis *L. beavani*, sed subtus pallidior, gula tantum nigra, et

corpore reliquo subtus pallidiore medialiter grisescenti-albo, aliter dilutè isabellino-griseo. Long. tot. 4·7 poll., culm. 0·4, alæ 2·6, caudæ 2·05, tarsi 0·65.

Hab. Ch'ü-tung, W. Yun-nan.

EMBERIZA YUNNANENSIS, n. sp.

Similis *E. godlewskii*, Tacz., et pileo medio cinereo, utrinque castaneo latè marginato, sed ubique saturatior, scapularibus plerisque castaneis concoloribus, haud nigro striatis, gutture et præpectore saturatè cinereis et corpore reliquo subtus cum abdomine et subcaudalibus saturatè rufis, ferè castaneis distinguenda. Long. tot. 7·1 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 3·3, caudæ 2·95, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Gyi-dzin-shán, east of Tali-fu.

YUHINA YANGPIENSIS, n. sp.

Similis *Y. gulari*, Hodgs., sed saturatior; supra olivascenti-brunnea nec fulvescenti-brunnea, pilei cristati plumis fusco-brunneis nec clarè brunnescentibus distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., culm. 0·75, alæ 2·9, caudæ 2·3, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Yang-pi, Tali-fu road.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS, on behalf of Mr. W. Eagle Clarke, exhibited a specimen of a freshly-moulted male *Phylloscopus viridanus,* which struck the lantern of the Suleskerry lighthouse on the 5th of September last. Suleskerry was a storm-swept rock nearly 40 miles west of Hoy, and about 35 miles from the nearest point of Sutherland. The bird was sent to Mr. Clarke in the flesh, and had been carefully compared with specimens in the British Museum.

This was the second example recognized in Great Britain, the first having been obtained by Mr. G. H. Caton Haigh in Lincolnshire on the 5th of September, 1896.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE exhibited, on behalf of Dr. F. Proud, of Maryport, four eggs which were said to be authentic eggs of *Tringa canutus.* Dr. Proud sent the following account of the occurrence :—

"In 1897 a local gentleman obtained 24 Knots from the Lincolnshire coast and kept them in the garden behind wire. In three years they had dwindled to four birds, which then came into the possession of Mr. Richard Mann, of Aigle Gill, Cumberland (brother of Mr. Thomas Mann, who obtained the only British Isabelline Wheatear). This gentleman, who takes a keen interest in ornithology, has an aviary through which a stream runs constantly, and in this the remnants of the birds have lived for the last two years.

"Some of the birds have changed more or less each spring, but this year, probably owing to an increased variety in their diet, the change in plumage was much greater than in former years; and two of the birds paired. About the end of the first week in June Mr. Mann observed that the female was very restless and made constant attempts to escape, and on the morning of June 8th an egg was found in a depression scratched in the turf in the enclosure, and on each of the three succeeding mornings another was laid. The eggs were frequently displaced by the other inhabitants of the aviary and the bird made no attempt to incubate, so the eggs were removed.

"The other birds in the enclosure were 3 Ruffs, 3 Reeves, 1 Bar-tailed Godwit, and some Teal Ducks.

"The birds were fed on oatmeal, with worms and insects occasionally."

Mr. **Bonhote** exhibited a pair of Aquatic Warblers (*Acrocephalus aquaticus*) which had been shot by a gardener's boy among some reeds on the canal at Winchelsea, Sussex, last August. These were the fifth and sixth examples of this species which had been recorded from this country.

Mr. **Bonhote** also made some remarks on the Great Bustard which had recently been shot in Cambridgeshire, and suggested that if it were desired to establish the species once more among our fauna, further consignments of these birds should be imported. Owing to the interest taken by some local farmers, the present example had been permitted to roam round the district in safety for nearly six months, and local rustics were just beginning to realize that it was a bird best left alone—an idea which the recent conviction no doubt strengthened. As the Great Bustard was protected throughout the year, and the police had in this instance taken every care to secure a conviction, there was now every chance that birds, if imported, would be unmolested.

Mr. G. E. Lodge exhibited an example of a Lesser Grey Shrike (*Lanius minor*) which he had shot in Norfolk in October.

An adult male of the White-spotted Blue-throat (*Cyanecula leucocyana*) was exhibited by Mr. M. J. Nicoll. The specimen was picked up dead close to Dungeness Lighthouse by a man named Gasson, on Monday, October 6th, 1902, and was sent by him to Mr. Bristow, the well-known taxidermist of St. Leonard's-on-Sea, where Mr. Nicoll saw it in the flesh on the 8th of October. Gasson stated that his attention was attracted to the specimen by the bright blue colour on its breast, as it lay on the beach; its forehead was bruised, evidently by flying against the light.

Mr. Nicoll also exhibited a specimen of a Common Nightingale (*Daulias luscinia*) which he had found dead near Brightling, in Sussex, on the 8th of April, 1899, after a slight fall of snow. The individual in question was remarkable for being in moult, having evidently renewed all its tail-feathers and nearly all its remiges. The bird was rather larger than usual with the species.

Mr. Ogilvie-Grant showed a female example of the Little Bunting (*Emberiza pusilla*), which had been procured at Teesmouth by Mr. C. Braithwaite on the 11th of October, 1902. The only other British example was procured at Brighton on November 2nd, 1864. On the same day many Sky-Larks, Rock-Pipits, and a few Shore-Larks had been observed on migration. The specimen had been forwarded for exhibition by Mr. Leonard C. Harwood.

Mr. N. F. Ticehurst exhibited a male White-winged Lark (*Alauda sibirica*). This was the third of the birds mentioned in the 'Bulletin,' xii. p. 50, as having been with the pair that were shot at Woodchurch, in Kent, on January 27th and 28th, 1902. It was constantly seen there, but being very wild, was not obtained until March 22nd, 1902. It differed from the male previously recorded in being brighter on the head and wing-coverts, and in having much more white on the throat and breast.

Mr. Ticehurst also exhibited a young male of the Rustic Bunting (*Emberiza rustica*) which had been shot by a boy named Charles Miller at North Croft Farm, Westfield, Sussex, on September 22nd, 1902. It was brought in to Mr. Bristow at St. Leonard's with other small birds, where it was seen in the flesh and identified by Mr. Ticehurst. This was the second record of this bird for Sussex, and the fourth for the British Isles.

Mr. J. I. S. Whitaker exhibited some specimens of rare species of birds from Tripoli, and made the following remarks :—

"The four species represented by these examples are mentioned in a paper of mine on a small collection of birds from Tripoli which has appeared in this month's 'Ibis,' and I have thought them sufficiently interesting to bring with me this evening.

"The first species, *Saxicola halophila* of Tristram, which is found in Tunisia and Algeria, as well as in Tripoli, has until recently been confounded with *Saxicola lugens*, Licht., but wrongly so, as may be gathered from the following memorandum which I have made regarding the species :—'This Chat appears to be distinct from *S. lugens*, Licht., from Egypt and Palestine, the females of the two species differing entirely from each other in their plumage, that of *S. lugens* bearing the same plumage as the male of that species, whereas in *S. halophila* the two sexes differ from each other altogether, particularly in the plumage of the upper parts. The males of the two species appear to be indistinguishable from each other except in the colouring of the crissum and under tail-coverts, which in *S. lugens* is of a darker rufescent hue than it is in *S. halophila*, in which latter species indeed it is sometimes almost pure white. The size of the two species is also not quite the same.

"Canon Tristram, during his travels in Algeria, appears to have met with adult males and females, as well as with immature males, of the present species. The adult males he referred to *S. lugens*, Licht., but the females and the immature males he took to belong to a new species, and called them *S. halophila* (Ibis, 1859, pp. 59 & 300). This being the case, his name, although given in ignorance of the real state of matters, must stand.

"Both Dr. Kœnig (J. f. O. 1895, p. 376) and Baron Erlanger (J. f. O. 1898, p. 231) have entered at some length into the question of this interesting discovery, and the former has given some good plates of the species, showing plainly the difference between the adult male and female as well as a very old female.

"Seebohm, when describing the female of *S. lugens* (Cat. B. B. M. v. p. 371) as quite different from the male in plumage, must have had before him specimens which were not from Egypt, but probably from N.W. Africa.

"Loche (Expl. Scient. de l'Algérie, i. p. 207) appears to have noticed the difference between the sexes of the present species, but did not distinguish it from *S. lugens*.

"Mr. Dixon also appears to have noticed the difference (Ibis, 1882, p. 562).

"Mr. Dresser's plate of immature *S. erythræa* (Birds of Europe, ii. p. 29) was taken from the type of Canon Tristram's *S. halophila*.

"The next of the four species is *Sylvia deserti* (Loche). This appears to me to differ sufficiently from *S. nana*, H. & E., to be treated as a good species. The difference between the two, it is true, is merely one of colouring, the North-west African bird being of an isabelline rufescent colour, while *S. nana* from North-east Africa and Asia is distinctly grey in colour; but the difference appears to be perfectly constant, and, so far as I know, there are no gradations. I believe that there are no specimens of this small Warbler in the Brit. Mus. collection from N.W. Africa, but only some of *S. nana*.

"No. 3 of the Tripoli birds is *Galerida theklæ cyrenaica*, a new subspecies. This is one of the numerous forms of the Crested Lark, and merely differs from typical *Galerida theklæ* and its allies in its plumage, which is very grey and mealy, resembling that of *Galerida cristata magna* of Hume.

"The last of my series is *Ammomanes phœnicuroides*. This species is interesting, both on account of its occurrence in Tripoli, as well as from its apparently extremely limited range in that country. Mr. Dodson met with it only in one district, that of the Soda or the Black Mountains, so-called from the colour of the stone of which they are composed. This species has never been found, I believe, further west than Tripoli."

Dr. Sclater exhibited a mounted specimen of the Indian Porphyrio (*Porphyrio poliocephalus*) killed in Hampshire. The bird had been shot by Mr. Henry Smallbone, of Hale Farm, Basing, on October 12th, 1899, in a meadow immediately adjoining his farm, which was situated on the Lyde River, a tributary of the Loddon. It was set up by Mr. Nevill, of Dean Gate, near Overton. There could be no doubt of these facts, as Mr. Smallbone was well known to Mr. Sclater, and a person of undoubted veracity. It was, of course, possible that the specimen had escaped from confinement, but it was also, in Mr. Sclater's opinion, quite as likely that it might have wandered to the British Islands, across Central Europe, this species of *Porphyrio* being known to occur as far west as the Caucasus (see Sclater, P. Z. S. 1891, p. 47), and Rails of all sorts being notoriously erratic. This was believed to be the first record of the occurrence of this *Porphyrio* in the British Islands, though *P. cæruleus* of Southern Europe and *P. smaragdonotus* of Egypt and E. Africa have already occurred here.

It was pointed out by Mr. Rothschild and others that

Porphyrio poliocephalus was one of the commonest species of Purple Gallinule brought to this country.

Mr. H. E. Dresser exhibited the eggs of *Falco* (*Hierofalco*) *altaicus* and *Parus cypriotes* (the latter at the request of Dr. J. von Madarász), these being the first examples known.

Mr. H. M. Wallis exhibited a remarkable nest of a House-Martin, which he had himself taken during the past summer near Reading. It had been built at some distance below the eaves of a house, and had been completely domed over.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 19th of November, 1902, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater, *Chairman.*	R. Bowdler Sharpe (*Editor*).	W. E. de Winton, *Sec. & Treas.*

Bird

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XCII.

The ninety-first Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of November, 1902.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, B. A. E. Buttress, Major S. R. Clarke, R. A. Crowley, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), F. D. Drewitt, M.D., Rev. Allan Ellison, E. N. F. Fenwick, J. Gerrard, H. Goodchild, E. Hartert, G. S. Hett, G. E. Lodge, Lt.-Col. A. P. Loyd, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, E. S. Montagu, H. Munt, E. Neale, H. J. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, M.D., T. Digby Pigott, C.B., A. E. Price, A. St. G. Sargeaunt, Howard Saunders, H. Scherren, D. Seth-Smith, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), E. Cavendish Taylor, Archibald Thorburn, N. F. Ticehurst, H. F. Witherby.

Visitors: E. Baylis, G. P. Burrell, C. M. Digby Pigott.

The Treasurer announced that Dr. F. Penrose had been elected a Member of the Committee in the room of Mr. Ernst Hartert, who had retired by rotation.

He also made his annual statement regarding the receipts and expenditure of the Club for the past session, and announced that the finances were in a flourishing condition.

An unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. de Winton for his services as Secretary and Treasurer.

The Treasurer also announced that a limited number of copies of the early parts of the 'Bulletin' were still available. Any member wishing to complete his set of the Journal was requested to apply to the Secretary without delay. The price of the 'Bulletin' would be 6*s*. for any complete session, and odd numbers would be procurable at 1*s*. each.

Mr. Howard Saunders exhibited a specimen of a female Water-Pipit (*Anthus spipoletta*) on behalf of Mr. M. J. Nicoll, who had shot it in Rye Harbour on the 29th of October last. This seemed to be the seventh record for the species in Sussex. An example had been procured in Lincolnshire and another in Carnarvonshire, by Mr. Caton Haigh (*cf.* Bull. B. O. C. v. p. xix, vi. p. xxxviii, vii. p. xxvi).

Mr. N. F. Ticehurst exhibited some specimens of Blue-headed Wagtails (*Motacilla flava*) which had been obtained in Kent and Sussex. In company with Mr. M. J. Nicoll, he had kept observation on the migration of Wagtails along the coast, from Sandwich on the east to Worthing on the west, and they had come to the conclusion that *M. flava* was a regular visitor over this whole area, arriving from the 20th of April to the 1st of May, a few doubtless remaining to breed. The return flight consisted chiefly of young birds, which migrated in autumn with *M. rayi* and *M. lugubris*, passing about the third week in August, and remaining but a short time. Occasional stragglers were to be seen up to about the 20th of September.

Mr. T. Digby Pigott mentioned an instance of a Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) nesting on the ground at Sheringham in Norfolk. He had reason to believe that the Eagle-Owl (*Bubo ignavus*) had also occurred recently in the same county.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe gave the following diagnoses of two apparently new species of birds from Ruwenzori, in Mr. F. J. Jackson's collection :—

Cryptospiza shelleyi, n. sp.

♂. Similis *C. reichenowi* et *C. ocularis* sed multo major, rostro crassiore, mandibula tota coccinea, maxilla nigra; secundariis intimis brunneis nec sordide coccineis dorso concoloribus; gastræo toto olivascenti-ochraceo, corporis lateribus sordide rubescentibus; subcaudalibus nigris distinguenda: rostro nigro, apice coccinea, mandibula coccinea; pedibus sepiariis; iride brunnea. Long. tot. 5·1 poll., culm. 0·65, alæ 2·6, caudæ 1·9, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Ruwenzori, Feb. 22, 1902.

Obs. A very large species, remarkable for its parti-coloured bill.

Sitagra aliena, n. sp.

♂. Similis nulla speciei generis '*Sitagra*' dicti. Notæo concolore, flavicanti-olivaceo; pileo undique et gutture nigris; gutture imo laterali et præpectore castaneis; pectore et abdomine læte flavis, subcaudalibus magis cervinis; corporis lateribus olivaceo-viridioribus: rostro nigro; pedibus sordide corneo-cæruleis; iride coccinea. Long. tot. 5·6 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 2·8, caudæ 2·2, tarsi 0·9.

♀. Mari similis, sed gutture summo tantum nigro, gutture reliquo et præpectore castaneis.

Hab. Ruwenzori, Feb. 13, 1902.

Obs. This species, according to Capt. Shelley's classification of the Weaver-Birds (B. Afr. i. p. 38), would come into his genus *Hyphanturgus*, but even then there is no species with a black head and throat.

Mr. Ogilvie-Grant described two new species of birds collected by Mr. G. W. Bury on the Yemen frontier of Southern Arabia:—

Serinus rothschildi.

Adult male and female. Most nearly allied to *S. xanthopygius*, but the general colour of the upper-parts greyer and the rump dull olive-yellow; the feathers of the chin, throat, and under-parts with dark middles, giving these parts a sparsely spotted and streaked appearance; the bill considerably heavier. Total length 5·0 inches, wing 2·6, tail 2·0, tarsus 0·6.

Hab. Ichaf Ravine, Hamérah, and Dthubiyât, in Upper Haushabi.

SCOTOCERCA BURYI.

Adult female. Allied to *S. inquieta,* but the general colour of the upper-parts much darker; the superciliary stripe commencing behind the lores *white*, and the breast and under-parts of a darker and more uniform dull rufous. Iris pale yellow, a bluish-white patch of bare skin under each eye; bill brown; legs brownish yellow; feet brown. Total length 4·5 inches, wing 1·85, tail 1·95, tarsus 0·7.

Hab. Dthubiyât, Upper Haushabi, S. Arabia.

Mr. GRANT also described two apparently new species of African birds:—

SYCOBROTUS ZAPHIROI.

Adult female. Very distinct from the female of any known species; perhaps most nearly allied to *S. emini,* from which it differs chiefly in having the entire top and sides of the head as well as the upper back uniform black; lower back and rump dull grey; the chin, throat, breast, thighs, and vent pale bright yellow; the belly and rest of under-parts white. Total length 5·5 inches, wing 3·0, tail 2·3, tarsus 0·9.

Hab. Abou Beker, Harar, S. Abyssinia, 10th June (*P. Zaphiro*).

The typical specimen had been shot by Mr. Zaphiro from a nest containing two eggs.

FRANCOLINUS THORNEI.

Adult male. Differs from typical *F. bicalcaratus* in the darker colour of the upper-parts and in the much heavier black shaft-stripes on the feathers of the under-parts. Total length ca. 13·5 inches, wing 7·0, tail 2·4, tarsus 2·45.

Adult female. Similar to the male, but somewhat smaller. Wing 6·8 inches.

Hab. Sierra Leone.

The type was collected by Capt. H. A. Thorne.

Mr. H. F. Witherby exhibited the following birds obtained by him this year in the oak-woods of South-western Persia :—

An example of *Syrnium aluco* and some specimens of *Sitta cæsia,* which were remarkable for their exceedingly pale coloration. A specimen of *Dendrocopus danfordi,* which differed slightly from typical examples of that species in its longer bill, in its paler colour on the breast, and in the broken character of the black line, which in typical examples of *D. danfordi* extended from the moustachial stripe, entirely encircled the ear-coverts, and joined the occiput. Some specimens of the very pale form of *Parus lugubris,* recently named by Dr. C. E. Hellmayr *P. lugubris dubius* (J. f. O. 1901, p. 173), and an example of *Garrulus atricapillus,* which had a very pale-coloured mantle, were also shown.

Dr. Sclater exhibited a specimen of the rare Australian bird, Broadbent's Bristle-bill (*Sphenura broadbenti* *), which had been kindly sent to him by Mr. Robert Hall, of Melbourne. It had been obtained by one of his correspondents in Heytesbury Forest, Victoria, which was described by Mr. Hall as "dense and dark, but not very large in area," and which was now being gradually opened up, so that its recluse birds would probably disappear. Dr. Sclater remarked that this was the finest and largest of the three species of the Australian genus *Sphenura,* and that there was no specimen of it in the British Museum, to which institution he proposed to present the specimen in Mr. Hall's name.

Dr. Sclater also called attention to the beautiful specimen of the Greater Bird of Paradise (*Paradisea apoda*) now living in the Insect House at the Zoological Society's Gardens. It had been received from the Zoological Gardens, Calcutta, on June 15th, and was then in full dress, but began to moult at the end of June, shedding all its ornamental plumes in three nights. The new plumes began to appear about the last week in August, and the entire plumage was nearly complete by the middle of November. The bird was very tame and quiet, and fed readily from the hand.

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* Sharpe, Cat. B. M. vii. p. 26 ; Gould, Suppl. B. Austr. pl. 23.

On the motion of Mr. H. J. Pearson it was unanimously resolved to have an exhibition of lantern-slides early in the year 1903. Members or friends who desire to show photographs of birds and nests taken during the past season are requested to communicate with the Secretary or Editor.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 17th of December, 1902, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater, *Chairman.*	R. Bowdler Sharpe (*Editor*).	W. E. de Winton, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XCIII.

The ninety-second Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of December, 1902.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—H. Ashby, E. Bidwell, W. R. Butterfield, C. W. Campbell, Abel Chapman, R. A. Crowley, W. E. de Winton (*Secretary*), H. E. Dresser, F. D. Drewitt, M.D., A. H. Evans, E. N. F. Fenwick, F. W. Frohawk, C. Garnett, F. Gayner, F. Goodchild, F. H. Carruthers Gould, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, E. Hartert, N. H. Joy, J. G. Millais, H. Monro, E. S. Montagu, H. Munt, E. Neale, R. Nesham, F. G. Penrose, M.D., T. Digby Pigott, C.B., W. P. Pycraft, Capt. Savile G. Reid, Howard Saunders, D. Seth-Smith, E. Cavendish Taylor, W. B. Tegetmeier, N. F. Ticehurst, H. M. Wallis, L. A. Williams, Scott B. Wilson, H. F. Witherby, A. F. R. Wollaston.

Visitors: J. M. Barton, C. E. Fagan, Col. C. Swinhoe.

Mr. W. Ruskin Butterfield called attention to the recent visitation of the Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) to the Sussex coast. He had examined three specimens, one being in fully adult plumage, which had been procured at Rye and Pevensey in October and November last.

Mr. Digby Pigott, on behalf of Lord Moreton, informed the Meeting that during the week ending the 22nd November last a Thrush had hatched out a young one, and a Starling and a Wren had laid eggs at Sarsden in Oxfordshire. He further reported, on the authority of Mr. R. Norton, of Downs House, Yalding, that in the same month there were young Martins in a nest in Kent (Mr. Norton wrote that he "had watched the mother feeding them for some minutes"); also, on the authority of Mr. C. Stuart-Wortley, that a Bittern had been seen by himself and others on a pond in Hampshire in last October.

Mr. J. G. Millais gave an account of his recent visit to Newfoundland, and of the birds noticed by him on that occasion.

Mr. Ogilvie-Grant described a new species of Stork, of the genus *Dissura*, which he proposed to name in honour of Mr. William Morton, who had recently procured an adult female bird on the Simunjan River, a tributary of the Sadong River, in Southern Sarawak, Borneo:—

Dissura mortoni, n. sp.

Dissura episcopus, Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xxvi. p. 294 (1898) [part.; specimen *n'*, Labuan *].

Adult male. Resembles *D. episcopus* in general appearance, but differs in the following important points:—It is considerably smaller, the outline of the culmen is slightly concave and ends in a protuberance in front of the forehead; the bill is vermilion, the bare skin round the eye and on the throat and neck orange or orange-yellow; the legs and feet dull vermilion; the basal half of the neck is clad in black feathers, which extend up the downy white sides of the upper-neck in two wedge-shaped patches; both the wing and tarsus are shorter, the latter being more slender. Iris yellow ; legs dull vermilion. Total length about 31·0 inches, culmen 6·5, wing 16·2, tail 6·2, under tail-coverts 7·0, tarsus 6·5, middle toe without claw 3·0.

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* The locality "Labuan" is an error; for the specimen, as stated by Sir Hugh Low, was killed on the Mengalong River, Sarawak.

Adult female. Like the male, but somewhat shorter and with a smaller bill. Iris red ; skin round eye orange-yellow ; bill vermilion, the under-part mixed with red and yellow ; legs muddy-vermilion [*W. Morton*]. Total length about 30·0 inches, culmen 5·7, wing 15·6, tail 5·7, under tail-coverts 6·4, tarsus 5·5, middle toe without claw 2·7.

The type of the male was recently procured at Lamag, Sandakan, in May, by Mr. Graydon ; the female by Sir Hugh Low, on the Mengalong River, Sarawak.

A full description and figure of this remarkable bird will appear in the April number of 'The Ibis' for 1903.

Mr. Grant then described a new species of Lark which had apparently been overlooked :—

Mirafra zombæ, n. sp.

Mirafra fischeri, Shelley (nec Reichenow), Ibis, 1894, p. 23 [Zomba and Lake Shirwa], p. 473 [lower slopes of Milanji, 3000 feet] ; id. Ibis, 1898, p. 379 [Zomba plains] ; id. Birds of Africa, iii. p. 43 (1902) [part.].

Adult male and female. Differ from the male of *M. fischeri* in having the general colour of the upper-parts, including the rump and upper tail-coverts, of a dark blackish grey, all the feathers having blackish middles and dark brownish-grey margins, producing a streaked appearance, very different from the transversely-marked upper-parts of *M. fischeri*. The rest of the plumage, as well as the under-parts, very similar to those of *M. fischeri*, but the inner secondaries are blackish brown, with pale margins.

From *M. buckleyi* the present species may be distinguished by the much darker colour of the upper-parts and by the dark rufous upper tail-coverts, transversely barred with blackish ; both species have the lower back and rump longitudinally streaked.

Total length ca. 6·0 inches, wing 3·05–3·15, tail 2·1–2·2, tarsus 1·0.

The types were collected on the Zomba plains, and specimens had been procured at Lake Shirwa and on the lower slopes of the Milanji Range up to an elevation of about 3000 feet by Mr. A. Whyte, and were presented to the British Museum by Sir Harry Johnston.

Mr. Grant also described two new birds from Abyssinia :—

Mirafra degeni, n. sp.

Mirafra fischeri, Salvad. (nec Reichenow), Ann. Mus. Civ. Genov. xxvi. p. 267 (1888) [Shoa]; Grant, Ibis, 1901, p. 628 [Kora, S. Abyssinia].

Adult male in summer plumage. Differs from *M. fischeri* in being somewhat larger and in having most of the feathers of the interscapular region *black*, with rufous-brown margins; the inner secondaries similarly coloured, and the feathers of the chest and sides of the breast *brick-red*, fringed with pale buff. Iris chocolate-brown; bill grey; feet light brown. Total length ca. 6·0 inches, wing 3·3–3·4, tail 2·35, tarsus 1·05.

In *M. fischeri* the feathers of the interscapular region are mostly reddish brown, with irregular confluent transverse black markings down the middle, the inner secondaries are mostly reddish brown with a black and pale buff marginal band, and the chest-feathers are cinnamon-buff.

The types were collected at Hiressa, 8000 feet, between Adis Ababa and Lake Tsana, on the 20th June, by Mr. E. Degen.

A male collected by Mr. A. E. Pease at Kora, S. Abyssinia, 10th February, and at first identified as *M. fischeri*, belongs to this species and may be described as follow :—

Adult male in winter plumage. Resembles the above in having the feathers of the interscapular region black, but the edgings of the feathers of the upper-parts and wings are whitish, while the chest and under-parts are coloured as in *M. fischeri*.

MELANOBUCCO TSANÆ, n. sp.

Adult female. Differs from the female of *M. undatus* (Rüpp.) in having the top of the head black to the base of the bill. Total length ca. 5·5 inches, culmen from feathers on forehead 0·75, wing 3·1, tail 1·75, tarsus 0·75.

The type was collected at Zegi, on Lake Tsana, on the 28th May, by Mr. E. Degen.

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE sent for exhibition a specimen of *Ægialitis venusta*, Fischer & Reichenow, from Port Elizabeth. The species was previously known only from the salt-plains of Masai Land, and was new to the avifauna of South Africa. The specimens were shot by Lieut. C. H. T. Whitehead, who had given one of them to the British Museum, and another to the South African Museum.

Dr. SHARPE also sent a description of a new Silver Pheasant from the Southern Shan Hills, for which he proposed the name of

GENNÆUS RIPPONI, n. sp.

♂. Similis *G. rubripedi*, sed plaga collari postauriculari purè alba, et albedine rectricum magis extensa distinguendus.

♀. A fœminis specierum affinium valde distincta. Subtus albo nigroque variegata, plumis latè sed irregulariter albo transfasciatis vel fasciatim latè irroratis et albo marginatis.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER showed an interesting variety of the Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticula*), with the ground-colour of a lilac-grey and the chestnut vermiculations of a bright tint. The ends of the primaries were all white, with the usual black markings replaced by lilac-brown. The under-parts were creamy buff, faintly barred with pale greyish brown. The throat white; the bill rather paler than usual, but the iris of the normal colour. The bird was a female, and was procured in the Galtee Mountains, Tipperary.

Mr. Dresser exhibited some plates of eggs intended for the illustration of Dr. Othmar Reiser's 'Ornis Balcanica.'

Dr. Sclater read extracts from several letters addressed to him by Mr. Michael J. Nicoll, who was on a tour round the world, as Naturalist to Lord Crawford, in the yacht 'Valhalla.' The last letter was dated December 1st, from Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, whence the yacht was proceeding to St. Vincent. Various notes on sea-birds were given.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 21st of January, 1903, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater, *Chairman.*	R. Bowdler Sharpe *(Editor).*	W. E. de Winton, *Sec. & Treas.*

Birds

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XCIV.

The ninety-third Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21st of January, 1903.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—Boyd Alexander, E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), F. D. Drewitt, M.D., F. Gillett, F. Goodchild, F. H. Carruthers Gould, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, E. Hartert, W. H. Hudson, G. E. Lodge, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, E. S. Montagu, H. Munt, E. Neale, C. E. Pearson, H. J. Pearson, F. Penrose, M.D., E. Lort Phillips, Hon. W. Rothschild, M.P., A. D. Sapsworth, W. L. Sclater, D. Seth-Smith, F. W. Styan, W. B. Tegetmeier, A. Thorburn, N. F. Ticehurst, Watkin Watkins, C. Whymper, H. F. Witherby, A. F. R. Wollaston.

Visitors: D. Cann, C. E. Fagan, Commander G. L. Sclater, R.N.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild exhibited the type of a wonderful Bird of Paradise, *Janthothorax mirabilis* (Rchw.), and made the following remarks upon it:—

"This remarkable bird was described by Professor

Reichenow in the 'Ornithologische Monatsberichte,' ix. pp. 185–186 (1901), and the author advanced the theory that it was most likely a hybrid between *Seleucides ignota* and a species of *Paradisea*, but provisionally gave it the name of *Paradisea mirabilis*. After an examination of the type-specimen, Mr. Hartert and I agreed that even if it were a hybrid it could not have had *Seleucides* as one of its parents. When further examining it we found that the two central tail-feathers were wanting. This at once suggested that they might have been long, and we carefully compared the bird with the drawing and *original* description of *Janthothorax bensbachi*. It at once became apparent that Reichenow's supposed hybrid is nothing more nor less than a second species of the genus *Janthothorax*, and it evidently represents *J. bensbachi* of the Arfak Region in German New Guinea. It is distinguished from *J. bensbachi* at first sight by its whitish-brown or brownish-white and longer flank-plumes, instead of earthy- or sooty-brown ones, and by the head, neck, and upper breast being of a beautiful metallic steel-bluish purple instead of bluish coppery-green. The central tail-feathers being absent (a fact entirely overlooked by Professor Reichenow, who expressly states that the tail-feathers are not elongated and thread-like), I cannot describe them, but, from the other differences noted above, they probably were steel-blue or purple, not green as in *J. bensbachi*.

"The mixture of brown on the wings, back, and rump, which evidently, from its apparent irregularity, first suggested to Professor Reichenow the idea of hybridity, is shared by both species of *Janthothorax* with *Lamprothorax wilhelminæ*, Meyer, and is neither a sign of youth nor of hybridism. Professor Reichenow's error can only be explained by the supposition that he was unfamiliar with the appearance of *Janthothorax bensbachi*."

Mr. Edwin S. Montagu exhibited specimens of varieties of the Jackdaw and Sparrow.

Mr. Boyd Alexander exhibited a series of specimens of the birds discovered by him during his recent expedition to the island of Fernando Po, of which he gave a most interesting account. He described the following species as new:—

1. Haplopelia poensis, n. sp.

♀. Similis *H. principali*, sed subcaudalibus cinereis nec albis distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 10·7 poll., culm. 0·85, alæ 5·9, caudæ 3·2, tarsi 1·15.

Hab. Bakaki, Nov. 19, 1902.

2. Halcyon lopezi, n. sp.

♀. Similis *H. badio*, sed major, et speculo alari cyaneo subquadrato distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 8·5, culm. 1·7, alæ 4·0, caudæ 2·2, tarsi 0·5.

Hab. Sipopo, Nov. 3, 1902.

3. Cypselus poensis, n. sp.

♂. Similis *C. unicolori*, sed multo minor, et gutture præpectoreque pallide cineraceis distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 6·2, culm. 0·25, alæ 5·2, caudæ 2·4, tarsi 0·4.

Hab. Sipopo, Nov. 6, 1902.

4. Heterotrogon francisci, n. sp.

♀. Affinis *H. vittato*, sed multo minor, et fasciolis albis tectricum majorum et secundariorum latioribus distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 9·8, culm. 0·6, alæ 4·4, caudæ 4·9, tarsi 0·6.

Hab. Mt. St. Ysabel, Nov. 18, 1902.

5. Merops marionis.

Similis *M. northcotti*, Sharpe, sed torque infragulari nigra latiore distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 8·4, culm. 1·4, alæ 3·5, caudæ 3·3, tarsi 0·4.

Hab. Bakaki, Nov. 17, 1902.

6. Indicator poensis, n. sp.

Similis *I. exili*, Cass., sed pileo cinereo concolore, ala extus lætiore aureo-flava distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 4·3, culm. 0·35, alæ 2·5, caudæ 1·45, tarsi 0·45.

Hab. Bakaki, Nov. 9, 1902.

7. Campothera poensis, n. sp.

♂. Affinis *C. nivosæ*, sed gutture distincte nigro striato,

notæo virescenti-olivaceo, nec aureo-olivaceo, et præcipue pileo cinerascente nec brunnescente distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 5·8, culm. 0·75, alæ 3·3, caudæ 1·65, tarsi 0·65.

Hab. Besoso, Nov. 13, 1902.

8. PSALIDOPROCNE POENSIS, n. sp.

♂. Similis *P. fuliginosæ*, Shelley, sed gutture et præpectore dilutius fuliginosis, potius cinerascentibus, et subalaribus pallidioribus, cineraceo-brunneis, haud fuliginosis. Long. tot. circa 5·6, culm. 0·41, alæ 4·35, caudæ 3·5, tarsi 0·45.

Hab. Bakaki, Nov. 12, 1902.

9. LIOPTILUS CLAUDEI, n. sp.

♂. Similis *L. abyssinico* (Rüpp.=*Alcippe kilimensis*, Shelley), sed interscapulio et dorso summo cinereis pileo concoloribus distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 5·2, culm. 0·55, alæ 2·6, caudæ 2·25, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Mt. St. Ysabel, 10,800 feet, Nov. 17, 1902.

10. DIAPHOROPHYIA CHLOROPHRYS, n. sp.

♂. Nitente viridi-nigra; pectore et abdomine *flavis*; palpebra nuda pallida, *viridi*. Long. tot. circa 3·9, culm. 0·55, alæ 2·1, caudæ 0·9, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Bakaki, Nov. 19, 1902.

11. BATIS POENSIS, n. sp.

♂. Similis *B. minullæ*, sed pileo nigro, minime schistaceo, et torque præpectorali nigro angustiore distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 3·6, culm. 0·4, alæ 2·2, caudæ 1·4, tarsi 0·5.

♀. Similis ♀ *B. minullæ*, sed torque præpectorali rufa angustiore distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 3·5, culm. 0·4, alæ 2·0, caudæ 1·3, tarsi 0·5.

Hab. Bakaki, Nov. 14, 1902.

12. SMITHORNIS SHARPEI, n. sp.

♀. Pileo cinereo: notæo reliquo rufescenti-brunneo, absque nigredine vel albedine, insignis; gutture et abdomine flavicanti-albis; genis et præpectore laterali aurantiaco-rufis; gulæ et pectoris lateribus nigro striolatis. Long. tot. circa 6·0, culm. 0·7, alæ 3·1, caudæ 1·8, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Mt. St. Ysabel, 4000 feet, Nov. 25, 1902.

13. **Cryptolopha herberti**, n. sp.

♀. Similis *C. lætæ*, Sharpe, et supercilio, facie laterali et gutture toto rufescentibus, sed pileo *nigro* facile distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 3·5, culm. 0·5, alæ 1·9, caudæ 1·1, tarsi 0·7.

Hab. Bakaki, Nov. 20, 1902.

14. **Phyllostrophus poensis**, n. sp.

♂. Similis *P. placido*, sed pileo fuscescentiore, notæo reliquo sordide olivascente; pileo fusco-brunneo, vix olivascente lavato; loris et regione oculari cinereis; regione parotica fusco-brunnea; corpore subtus albicante, vix flavo lavato; præpectore et pectore summo et corporis lateribus olivascenti-brunneis. Long. tot. circa 7·4, culm. 0·65, alæ 3·4, caudæ 3·1, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Bakaki, Nov. 18, 1902.

15. **Stelgidillas poensis**, n. sp.

Similis *S. gracilirostri*, sed virescentior, pileo cinerascente; regione parotica cinerea: subtus pallidior, gutture albicante, corpore reliquo subtus pallide cineraceo. Long. tot. 7·2, culm. 0·8, alæ 3·2, caudæ 3·0, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Sipopo, Nov. 8, 1902.

Urolais, n. gen.

Genus simile quoad staturam et colores generibus *Apalis* et *Dryodromas* dictis, sed cauda longissima corporis longitudinem longe superante facile distinguendum. Typus est

16. **Urolais mariæ**, n. sp.

♂. Viridis; supercilio angusto flavo; facie laterali viridi; genis et corpore subtus pallide sed læte cervinis; cauda schistacea, rectricibus albo terminatis, duabus medianis longissimis ad apicem late albicantibus. Long. tot. circa 7·8, culm. 0·6, alæ 2·1, caudæ 5·0, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Mt. St. Ysabel, Nov. 17, 1902.

17. **Apalis lopezi**, n. sp.

♂. Similis *A. sharpei*, Shelley, sed pedibus nigricantibus; subtus omnino fuliginoso-schistaceus, abdomine medio pallidiore, minime albo; gutture schistaceo, nec nigro distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 4·0, culm. 0·6, alæ 2·1, caudæ 1·4, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Bakaki, Nov. 19, 1902.

18. **Euprinodes sclateri**, n. sp.

♂. Similis *E. cinereo*, Sharpe, sed gastræo toto cervino, abdomine minime albo distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 5·1, culm. 0·6, alæ 2·2, caudæ 2·4, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Mt. St. Ysabel, Nov. 26, 1902.

POLIOLAIS, n. gen.

Genus inter genera *Sylviella* et *Camaroptera* dicta intermedium, pedibus caudam longe superantibus et rectricibus externis pure albis distinguendum. Typus est

19. **Poliolais helenoræ**, n. sp.

Sordide fuscescenti-olivaceo-viridis; pileo saturatiore, brunnescentiore; loris, superciliis et facie laterali tota dilute castaneis; gastræo toto schistaceo, gutture et abdomine albicantibus; hypochondriis imis et tibiis olivascenti-brunneis; alis dorso concoloribus; rectricibus duabus medianis nigricanti-brunneis; reliquis dimidiatim nigris et albis, lateralibus autem pure albis. Long. tot. circa 3·6, culm. 0·6, alæ 1·9, caudæ 1·2, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Bakaki, Nov. 20, 1902.

20. **Camaroptera granti**, n. sp.

♂. Similis *C. concolori*, sed subtus cinerca, minime olivascens, pectore vix viridi lavata; cauda et abdomine albidis distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 4·2, culm. 0·6, alæ 2·2, caudæ 1·2, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Badasou, Nov. 11, 1902.

21. **Macrosphenus poensis**, n. sp.

♂. Similis *M. flavicanti*, sed pileo sordide cinerascente et tectricibus externis cinerascentibus, gutture et pectore cinereis, corpore reliquo viridescente, nec olivaceo-flavo, distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 5·2, culm. 0·72, alæ 2·3, caudæ 2·0, tarsi 0·35.

Hab. Mt. St. Ysabel, Nov. 25, 1902.

22. **Hylia poensis**, n. sp.

♀. Similis *H. prasinæ*, sed supra sordidior, grisescenti-olivascens nec olivascenti-viridis, pileo dorso concolore; superciliis et corpore subtus toto albicantibus nec flavo tinctis distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 4·2, culm. 0·5, alæ 2·4, caudæ 1·45, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Rebola, Nov. 1, 1902.

23. ALETHE MOORI, n. sp.

♂. Castanea, pileo antico cinerascente; plaga capitali aurantiaca nulla; pectore et corporis lateribus schistaceis; abdomine albo; gutture albo, cinereo lavato; regione parotica castanea. Long. tot. circa 7·1, culm. 0·8, alæ 3·2, caudæ 2·85, tarsi 1·15.

Hab. Bakaki, Nov. 17, 1902.

Named in honour of Sir Ralph Moor, K.C.B., High Commissioner of Southern Nigeria.

24. CALLENE ROBERTI, n. sp.

♀. Similis *C. cyornithopsidi*, sed rectricibus medianis nigris, reliquis autem castaneis distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 5·0, culm. 0·6, alæ 2·6, caudæ 1·75, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Bakaki, Nov. 17, 1902.

25. CALLENE POENSIS, n. sp.

♂. Similis *C. isabellæ*, sed facie laterali castanea gastræo concolore, fascia alba supralorali absente, abdomine medio flavicanti-albo; rectricibus medianis brunneis, minime nigris, reliquis saturate ferrugineis, externis extus brunneo marginatis. Long. tot. circa 5·2, culm. 0·65, alæ 2·9, caudæ 2·0, tarsi 1·05.

Hab. Bilelipi, Nov. 25, 1902.

26. TURDUS POENSIS, n. sp.

♂. Similis *T. xanthorhyncho*, Salvad., et rostro flavo, sed pedibus brunneis, præpectore et corporis lateribus concoloribus, brunneis, minime squamulatis. Long. tot. circa 8·2, culm. 0·8, alæ 4·2, caudæ 2·9, tarsi 1·2.

Hab. Bakaki, Nov. 19, 1902.

27. CALAMOCICHLA POENSIS, n. sp.

Similis *C. brevipenni*, sed major: rectricibus nigricanti-brunneis, remigum marginibus et supracaudalibus rufescentibus distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 6·8, culm. 0·8, alæ 3·0, caudæ 2·75, tarsi 1·15.

Hab. Bilelipi, Nov. 24, 1902.

28. DRYOSCOPUS POENSIS, n. sp.

♂. Similis *D. nigerrimo*, sed multo minor; niger vix viridi-nitens; abdomine nigerrimo, haud cinerascente. Long. tot. circa 6·9, culm. 0·85, alæ 3·0, caudæ 2·65, tarsi 1·15.

Hab. Mt. St. Ysabel, Nov. 25, 1902.

29. Cyanomitra poensis, n. sp.

♂. Similis *C. verticali,* sed pileo et gutture metallicis, sordide et obscure viridescentibus; pectore et abdomine totis *olivascenti-flavis,* minime cinereis distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 4·8, culm. 1·1, alæ 2·45, caudæ 1·65, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Bilelipi, Nov. 27, 1902.

30. Cyanomitra ursulæ, n. sp.

♂. Sordide flavescenti-olivacea; subtus fumoso-cineracea, hypochondriis imis olivascentibus; fasciis pectoralibus læte flammeis; pileo vix metallice chalybeo adumbrato. Long. tot. circa 3·6, culm. 0·75, alæ 1·95, caudæ 1·0, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Mt. St. Ysabel, Nov. 20, 1902.

31. Cryptospiza elizæ, n. sp.

♂. Similis *C oculari* et *C. reichenowi,* sed pileo et collo postico sordide olivascenti-fuscis et subcaudalibus nigris distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 4·3, culm. 0·5, alæ 2·2, caudæ 1·45, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Bakaki, 4000 feet, Nov. 20, 1902.

32. Sycobrotus poensis, n. sp.

♂. Similis *S. nandensi,* Jackson, sed gula squamulata, minime nigra, plumis grisescenti-nigris canescenti-flavo marginatis. Long. tot. circa 6·0, culm. 0·8, alæ 3·3, caudæ 2·2, tarsi 1·0.

Hab. Bakaki, 4000 feet, Nov. 15, 1902.

33. Pyrrhospiza camerunensis, n. sp.

♂. Similis *P. olivaceo,* sed rostro majore, pectore et abdomine sordide nec læte flavis, gutturis nigredine vix aurantiaco circumdata.

Hab. Mt. Victoria, Cameroons. Typus in Brit. Mus.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe reported that he had recently examined a living example of the Meadow-Bunting (*Emberiza cia*) which had been captured near Shoreham at the end of October, out of a flock of Chaffinches, Linnets, Yellow Buntings, &c. The specimen in question had been brought to Dr. Sharpe for identification by its present owner, Mr. E. A. Hackett, of 35 Lincoln Road, East Finchley,

and was in beautiful condition. At Dr. Sharpe's request, Mr. Hackett had taken pains to obtain full particulars of the capture of the bird, of which two individuals were taken at the same time, but one had died. This was the first record of the capture of the Meadow-Bunting in Great Britain, and made an addition to the British list.

Mr. F. H. Carruthers Gould exhibited a specimen of a Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*) with a deformed and decurved bill.

Mr. E. Bidwell exhibited, through the kindness of Mr. George Evans, a Roller (*Coracias garrula*) shot at Rushford, Suffolk, on the 9th of September, 1902. The bird, whose plumage was in poor condition, was being mobbed by small birds, when seen by the keeper.

Mr. Tegetmeier exhibited and made remarks on a specimen of a female Common Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) which had partially assumed the plumage of the male.

Mr. de Winton called the attention of the Members to the excellent work on migration carried on by W. Eagle Clarke. Essays on the Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*) and the Lapwing (*Vanellus vulgaris*) had been published in the Report of the British Association, 1902.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 18th of February, 1903, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m.

The Meeting on March 18th will be a lantern night. Anyone wishing to exhibit slides of birds taken in the past year should kindly communicate with the Editor or Secretary, and give approximately the number of slides.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater, *Chairman.*
R. Bowdler Sharpe (*Editor*).
W. E. de Winton, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XCV.

THE ninety-fourth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of February, 1903.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—BOYD ALEXANDER, E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, W. E. DE WINTON (*Treasurer*), H. E. DRESSER, A. H. EVANS, F. FINN, F. W. FROHAWK, C. GARNETT, F. GAYNER, J. GERRARD, H. GOODCHILD, E. HARTERT, E. S. MONTAGU, H. MUNT, E. NEALE, T. PARKIN, H. J. PEARSON, T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., H. E. RAWSON, R. READ, B. B. RIVIERE, Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, M.P., A. D. SAPSWORTH, A. S. G. SARGEAUNT, HOWARD SAUNDERS, W. L. SCLATER, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D. (*Editor*), D. SETH-SMITH, W. B. TEGETMEIER, Major H. TERRY, A. THORBURN, A. TREVOR-BATTYE, WATKIN WATKINS, H. F. WITHERBY, A. F. R. WOLLASTON.

Visitors: Colonel HARRIS, T. MALTWOOD, Colonel SWINHOE, S. WHITE.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD exhibited specimens of two new species of birds, which he described as follows:—

CHALCURUS INOPINATUS, n. sp.

Capite supra colloque obscure cinereis, albo punctulatis; tergo, alarum tectricibus, uropygio, supracaudalibusque læte castaneis, nigro undulatis, interscapulii plumis et alarum tectricibus ocellis rotundatis, anteapicalibus

Smithsonian Institution
National Museum.

[*February 28th*, 1903.] VOL. XIII.

purpurascenti-cyaneis, punctulisque albidis supra ocellos positis ornatis, uropygio et supracaudalibus inocellatis, maculis tantum parvis albidis anteapicalibus ornatis; remigibus fuscis, secundariis internis tergo concoloribus; supracaudalibus longis lateralibus fuscis, rufo-castaneo maculatis, maculis magnis viridi-purpurascentibus nigro circumscriptis; cauda fusco-nigra albo-luteo maculata, rectricibus omnibus, duabus medianis exceptis, maculis magnis viridi-purpurascentibus, nigro circumdatis ornatis, his maculis in pogonio interiore positis multo minoribus, supra tantum præsentibus; gulæ capitisque lateribus nigricantibus, albido maculatis, gastræo toto fusco-cineraceo, cinereo vermiculato et striolato; subcaudalibus nigrescentibus, læte castaneo undulatis; subalaribus fusco-nigricantibus. Long. tot. circa 600 mm., alæ 200–205, caudæ 360–370, rectr. lat. 160, rostr. 22, tarsi 70–73.

♀. Multo minor, ocellis tergi alarumque tectricum nigricantibus, paullum micantibus. Al. 185–195 mm.

Hab. Ulu Pahang in Peninsula Malayana.

Type, ♂ ad., Ulu Pahang, January 1902, no. 100, in Mus. Tring.

Of this remarkable new species the Bornean hunters of Mr. John Waterstradt obtained three males and two females in the State of Ulu Pahang, in the centre of the Malay Peninsula.

From the shape of its tail this is a true *Chalcurus*. The large metallic purplish-green iridescent patches on the lateral rectrices are also more like those of a *Chalcurus* than the more ocellate ones of a *Polypectron*, while the eye-like spots on the back remind one of the latter genus.

This is perhaps the most interesting discovery recently made in the Malay Peninsula, only rivalled by that of the *Rheinardtius*, which occurs in the same country.

MYZOMELA KUEHNI, n. sp.

Myzomela supra brunneo-olivacea, alis caudaque obscurioribus, loris nigricantibus; capite toto, mento, gutture supracaudalibusque saturate scarlatinis, pectore, abdomine, subcaudalibusque albidis, sulfureo-tinctis, remigum pogoniis internis subalaribusque albis: iride brunnea, rostro nigro, pedibus cinereo-nigrescentibus. Al. 57–59 mm., caud. 40–42, rostr. 15, tars. 16.

♀ mari simillima, sed minor. Al. 53–54 mm., caud. 37–39, rostr. 14.

Hab. in Insula "Wetter" dicta.

Mr. Heinrich Kühn sent nine examples from the Island of Wetter, north of Timor.

Type, ♂ ad., Wetter, 5 x. 1902, no. 5693, Kühn coll.

The species is named in honour of its discoverer.

Mr. Rothschild made the following remarks about a Pheasant which he had recently named:—"When I exhibited specimens of *Phasianus torquatus* and some other new species at the meeting of this Club in November 1901, I made a statement that Pallas had given the name of *P. mongolicus* to the Siberian form of *P. torquatus*, and that therefore that name, as applied to the large Mongolian Pheasant, could not be upheld, and I re-named the latter *Phasianus brandti*. I have since come to the conclusion that Pallas used the term '*mongolicus*' as an adjective and therefore this name should after all be applied to Brandt's Pheasant. This being the case, I am reluctantly compelled to sink my name of *P. brandti*, and at the same time must re-name the Siberian form of *Phasianus torquatus*. I have much pleasure in naming it after its discoverer, *Phasianus torquatus pallasi*, subsp. nov."

Mr. Rothschild likewise exhibited a specimen of a rare Honey-eater, *Stigmatops notabilis*, Finsch, from Wetter Island, hitherto represented by the unique type in the Leyden Museum.

Mr. E. Hartert read to the meeting a letter from the Rev. Francis C. R. Jourdain, enclosing another letter from Dr. J. H. Salter. It was agreed that both of these letters should be published in full in the 'Bulletin.'

"At a meeting of the B. O. C. held on May 31, 1900, a resolution was carried 'That any member of the B. O. U. directly or indirectly responsible for the destruction of nest, eggs, young, or parent birds of .... Kite, ... should be visited with the severest censure of the Union.'

"It is perhaps somewhat unfortunate that though this resolution was unanimously carried at a meeting of the B. O. C., no steps appear to have been taken to confirm it at any of the Annual Meetings of the B. O. U. This is the more to be regretted as the resolution, as it stands, is somewhat imperfectly drawn up.

"(1) It is presumed that it applies to Great Britain and Ireland, and Great Britain and Ireland only *; but, according to the literal wording, any member of the B. O. U. who orders a clutch of Common Buzzards from the Continent is subject to the severest censure of the Union!

"(2) Probably about 40 pairs of Buzzards breed annually in Great Britain, and in some parts of Wales the species is common—twelve pairs nesting within a radius of a few miles. The taking of a first clutch of this bird in Wales can do no great harm if the second laying is left; yet this bird is protected while others—which need protection far more—are ignored. In the same way the Chough on the Irish west coast is safe from extermination by egg-collectors, although it should be protected in England and Wales.

"(3) The omissions are, however, more serious. The few pairs of Golden Eagles and Red-throated Divers which still lead a precarious existence in Ireland may be plundered with impunity; the Great Skua is not mentioned nor is the Bearded Tit included; while, on the other hand, few of us are likely to have the opportunity of taking nests of the Bittern, Hoopoe, or Golden Oriole in England.

"Without falling into the errors of our County Councils and adopting the county divisions, surely some discrimination should be made between England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. The Golden Eagle in Ireland is perilously near extinction and needs all the protection we can give it; in Scotland it stands at present in no immediate danger; and the same may be said of the Red-throated Diver. The Buzzard may well be protected in England, but seems likely to survive for many years in Wales.

"But what I wish more particularly to point out is that

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* [The context plainly shows that the resolution refers exclusively to the British Islands.—Ed.]

as a protective measure in the case of the Kite the resolution appears to have had no effect. The following notes are from the pen of Dr. J. H. Salter, and it will be seen that there exists even now a market for every nest that can be taken at £5 apiece. Who is responsible for this state of things? For ten years past at least this nest-harrying business has been systematically carried on; yet there is no cessation in the demand. Does it arise from wealthy collectors who are not members of the Union? If so, the resolution becomes a mere 'self-denying ordinance' and is of no practical value. When it is remembered that every pair is regularly robbed twice a year it is evident that there is a large body of collectors who are indifferent to the action of the B. O. C., or else that the extermination of the species is sought as a speculation to enhance the value of the eggs already acquired. Nest-watching in this district is attended with peculiar difficulties, as will be seen from Dr. Salter's notes, but something may yet be done if the landowners can be convinced of the importance of preserving this splendid bird. For this reason Mr. Hartert has kindly consented to bring the matter before the B. O. C. as it is proposed to take steps before the nesting-season commences, and the Annual Meeting of the B. O. U. falls too late in the year for the purpose.

"Clifton Vicarage,
Ashburne, Derbyshire,
Feb. 16, 1903."

"Francis C. R. Jourdain."

"I take the present opportunity of enlisting the sympathies of members of the B. O. Club on behalf of the few remaining Welsh Kites. For all practical purposes the Kite now breeds nowhere in the British Islands but in a very limited district of South Wales. It is difficult to speak with certainty as to the exact number which remain, but there are certainly three, and probably five or six pairs,—eight would be the outside limit. Taking the British Islands as a whole, the Kite is thus one of our rarest resident Raptores. Though thus reduced, its numbers do not appear to have decreased much during the past ten years. Most of the large landowners protect it so far as they are able; the farmers and shepherds are apathetic or indifferent. Its haunts are not threatened by the spread of cultivation, and they lie beyond the pale of game-preserving. Hence it is only very occasionally that a Kite is shot, and, if only allowed to breed, the race might still have a long lease of life. It is, however, most exceptional for any of these pairs to bring off young, owing to the greed of the egg-collectors.

"The Kite resorts year after year to the same oak-wood, and there builds or repairs its large and conspicuous nest before there is a leaf upon the trees. These localities are well known, and the nests are invariably raided. Private collectors might in time be satisfied, but not so the dealers—some of them so-called 'naturalists.' One of these, hailing from Pembrokeshire, has visited the district annually for the past ten years, and has seldom failed to secure the contents of three nests. He states that at £5 the clutch he has far more orders for Kites' eggs than he can supply. No young are reared to take the place of an occasional bird which is shot, and thus the species dwindles and must, but for timely action, soon become extinct in Wales. Its extermination will be due solely to the egg-collectors, few of whom have any interest in the bird itself or know anything of its haunts. To all appearance there must be wealthy private collectors who wish to acquire a large series of the eggs of this vanishing species, probably with the idea of their value being much enhanced when the bird itself has finally vanished. Some ten years since the thanks of the Zoological Society of London were conveyed to a number of naturalists in mid-Wales for their efforts to protect the Kite. Several farmers and shepherds also do their best, in spite of the large bribes which are offered. But such attempts at protection are very rarely successful. The egg-stealers watch their chance, come at earliest daylight or (as in a recent instance) while the farmer is at church. It is hoped that the B. O. C. will issue an appeal, asking naturalists to refrain from buying British-taken eggs of the Kite. If the members would also give strong expression to their opinions as to the desirability of trying to retain this fine species as a British bird, such an appeal (backed by the names of prominent naturalists) could be forwarded to Welsh landowners and would be likely to stimulate their interest in the Kite and increase their desire to protect it. Two County Councils (out of three concerned) have taken out orders protecting both the bird and its eggs, but, in the absence of all provision for its enforcement, such legislation remains of course a dead letter.

"As we fail to influence public opinion and thus decrease the demand for the Kites' eggs, nothing remains but to employ watchers. Arrangements are being made to try this plan during the coming breeding-season. In the event of its being successful an appeal will probably be made another year to well-wishers of the Kite asking them to aid in defraying the expense, which will be considerable. But as this mode of protection is first to be tried tentatively in one or two cases, it is unnecessary to ask for such assistance at present.

"J. H. Salter."

"University College of Wales,
Aberystwith,
Feb. 13, 1903."

A discussion followed, in which Mr. Rothschild, Mr. Howard Saunders, Mr. Hartert, and others took part, and it was then unanimously resolved:—

1. That the thanks of the Club be given to Mr. Jourdain and Dr. Salter for calling the attention of the Members to the threatened extinction of the Kite in Great Britain.

2. That a "Kite" Committee be appointed, to consist of Mr. J. L. Bonhote, Mr. W. E. de Winton, Mr. E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, the Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P., Mr. Howard Saunders, and Mr. Watkin Watkins, to take steps to procure the preservation of the Kite, and that a fund be raised to prevent the molestation of the birds during the nesting-season, and to procure the conviction of any one found robbing the nests or offering money for the eggs.

3. That Mr. E. Cambridge Phillips be asked to join with Dr. Salter in endeavouring to secure protection for the Kites, and in the administration of any funds that the Committee may deem advisable to depute to them for that purpose.

The sum of £47 was subscribed in the room by the Members present, for the above-mentioned fund, and £7 in addition towards the fund for rewarding any one obtaining a conviction. Further subscriptions are solicited.

Mr. Boyd Alexander described some new species, examples of which he had obtained from Fernando Po:—

Nesocharis, n. gen.

Simile generi *Spermestes* dicto, sed rostro cyanescente debili, valde compresso et cauda brevi rotundata, pedibus caudam apicalem excedentibus distinguendum. Typus est

1. Nesocharis shelleyi, n. sp.

♀. Viridis, uropygio et supracaudalibus paullo lætioribus et flavicantioribus; pileo, facie laterali et gula nigerrimis; corpore reliquo subtus cinereo. Long. tot. circa 3·2 poll., culm. 0·35, alæ 1·6, caudæ 1·0, tarsi 0·5.

Hab. Moka, Fernando Po, Dec. 12, 1902.

2. Phlexis lopezi, n. sp.

♀. Similis *P. rufescenti,* sed gutture et abdomine fulvescentibus, hoc minime albo, subcaudalibus castaneo-rufis, facie laterali, gutture et pectore totis castaneis, et pedibus nigricantibus distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 5·5, culm. 0·6, alæ 2·25, caudæ 2·21, tarsi 1·02.

Hab. Moka, Fernando Po, Dec. 11, 1902.

3. Lamprocolius chubbi, n. sp.

♀. Similis *L. splendido,* sed dorso medio et scapularibus viridescenti-chalybeis, gutture metallice chalybeo vix purpurascente, corpore reliquo subtus chalybeo-cyaneo, nec metallice violaceo, nitore æneo vel bronzino nullo distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 11·5, culm. 1·1, alæ 6·0, caudæ 4·7, tarsi 1·2.

Hab. Moka, Fernando Po, Dec. 16, 1902.

4. **Astur lopezi**, n. sp.

♀. Similis *A. toussenelii* sed minor, et gastræo potius vinaceo-castaneo, tibiis et abdomine vinaceo-castaneis, minime cinereo adumbratis distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 13·0, culm. 0·9, alæ 7·3, caudæ 6·2, tarsi 2·3.

Hab. Moka, Fernando Po, Dec. 11, 1902.

Mr. **Boyd Alexander** also exhibited the hitherto unknown male of *Heterhyphantes melanogaster* (Shelley, P. Z. S. 1887, p. 126), described from the Cameroons.

As with other species of this genus, the male proved to have an orange-yellow crown and nape, with the sides of the face and a præpectoral collar of orange-yellow, the chin and throat being black. Long. tot. circa 5·5, culm. 0·8, alæ 2·7, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Moka, Fernando Po, Dec. 16, 1902.

Professor M. **Menzbier** sent the following descriptions of two apparently undescribed species of *Paridæ* from the Crimea:—

1. **Parus moltchanovi**, n. sp.

Parus robustus et rostratus, quo *P. phæonoto* nec *P. atro* similis; rostro etiam longiore et crassiore quam in *P. phæonoto*. Dorso purissime cineraceo ut in *P. atro*, minime olivascenti, quo a *P. phæonoto* maxime differt; uropygio virescenti. R. 0·47–0·5 poll., u. 2·7–2·8, c. 2·13–2·25.

Habitat in sylvis montium Yaïla peninsulæ Tauricæ.

2. **Acredula rosea taurica**, n. subsp.

A. roseæ similis, quam accedit striga superciliari nigerrima rostrum haud attingenti dorsoque late nigro, quo ab *A. macedonica* differt. Ab *A. roseæ* scapularibus roseis cinereo valde admixtis verticeque pure albo distinguenda. Fascia pectorali transversa dilutissima fere inconspicua.

Habitat in sylvis montium Yaïla peninsulæ Tauricæ.

Dr. **Bowdler Sharpe** exhibited skins of two apparently new species of Accipitres from Cameroon:—

1. Polyboroides pectoralis, n. sp.

Similis *P. typico*, sed præpectore et pectore summo ochraceo-cervinis, et corporis lateribus latius nigro transfasciatis; pileo undique gulaque pallide cinereis. Long. tot. 21·0 poll., culm. 1·25, alæ 14·4, caudæ 9·65, tarsi 3·05.

Hab. Efulen, Cameroon, July 8, 1901 (*G. L. Bates*).

2. Accipiter batesi, n. sp.

A. similis *A. hartlaubi*, sed rectricibus medianis maculis duabus albis notatis, minime concoloribus, ut in specie supradicta, tibiis cinereis paullo vinaceo lavatis et cinereo fasciatim irroratis; corporis lateribus dilute vinaceis. Long. tot. circa 11·2, culm. 0·8, alæ 7·1, caudæ 5·2, tarsi 2·0.

Hab. Efulen, Cameroon, Aug. 4, 1902 (*G. L. Bates*).

Dr. Sharpe also called attention to the fact that his *Nectarinia barakæ*, recently described from Ruwenzori (Bull. B. O. C. xiii. p. 8) was identical with *Cinnyris purpureiventer* of Reichenow (Orn. MB. i. p. 61; id. J. f. O. 1894, Taf. i. fig. 2), apparently described from a specimen of *Nectarinia* from which the two long centre tail-feathers were missing. The species would have to stand as *Nectarinia purpureiventer* (Reichenow).

Mr. H. E. Dresser exhibited the eggs of the following rare species of Palæarctic birds, sent to him by Mr. Zarudny, by whom they had been obtained in Transcaspia and Turkestan, viz.:—*Lanius phœnicuroides* (with the two subspecies *L. karelini* and *L. romanowi*), *Anthus similis, Pycnorhamphus carneipes, Galerita magna, Lusciniola indica.*

Mr. J. L. Bonhote exhibited and made some remarks on some of the birds he had recently collected in the Bahamas. *Mareca americana* and *Botaurus lentiginosus* were recorded for the first time from the group. Among the specimens exhibited were those of *Spindalis zena* and *S. townsendi,* which latter was considered to be a distinct form; *Dendrœca kirtlandi*; *Rallus coryi*; *Dendrœca gundlachi,* from the north of Abaco (a great extension of its range); *Sporadinus riccordi,* from the same island; and of three so-called species of *Geothlypis,* viz. *G. rostratus, G. maynardi,* and *G. tanneri,* the differences between which Mr. Bonhote considered to be due merely to age.

On behalf of Mr. N. F. Ticehurst, Mr. Bonhote recorded the occurrence of Bulwer's Petrel (*Bulweria bulweri*) in Sussex, a specimen having been picked up dead near Beachy Head on the 3rd of February, 1903, and brought to Mr. Ticehurst in the flesh. This was the second instance of the occurrence of this Petrel in Great Britain, the first specimen having been obtained in Yorkshire in 1837. The present occurrence took place after a succession of strong S.W. gales.

Mr. Ticehurst also recorded the occurrence of the Two-barred Crossbill (*Loxia bifasciata*) for the first time in Kent, a female specimen having been shot by Mr. H. Dale on Cold Blow Farm, Woodchurch, on the 26th of December, 1902.

Dr. Sclater exhibited another specimen of the newly-discovered Australian Parrot, *Platycercus macgillivrayi* (see Bull. B. O. C. vol. xii. p. 52, and 'Ibis,' 1902, p. 610, pl. xv.), received, like the previous specimen, from Mr. A. J. North, C.M.Z.S. It had been obtained, like the former specimen, by Mr. A. S. Macgillivray near Cloncurry, in Northern Queensland. Mr. North had now received eight specimens (all from Mr. Macgillivray) of this fine species, and had ascertained that the sexes were nearly alike in plumage. Dr. Sclater remarked that in his notes on this species (Ibis, 1902, p. 610) he had made an error in speaking of the "Gulf of *Normanton*" instead of "Gulf of Carpentaria," as Normanton was situated about 25 miles from the head of the Gulf of Carpentaria.

A communication from Miss Dorothy M. A. Bate described the Wren from Cyprus as follows:—

ANORTHURA CYPRIOTES, n. sp.

Similis *A. troglodyti,* sed notæo et hypochondriis rufescentioribus, et fasciis notæi et gastræi magis distincte indicatis, cauda fere dorso concolore, vix rufescentiore. Long. tot. circa 3·7 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 2·8, caudæ 1·3, tarsi 0·65.

Hab. Troodos, Cyprus, Oct. 4, 1902 (*D. M. A. B.*).

Mr. Robert H. Read exhibited the following specimens found by himself during the past season :—

1. Nest of Blackbird (*Merula merula*), or rather eggs, laid on the ground without any nest, at Claygate.

2. Nest of Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) with seven eggs of two distinct types laid in the same nest, evidently the produce of two females.

3. Nest of Pied Wagtail (*Motacilla lugubris*) built in a nest of Song-Thrush (*Turdus musicus*), from which a brood of young Thrushes had just flown. The Wagtails hatched off safely, leaving two infertile eggs.

4. Deserted nest of Reed-Warbler (*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*) containing an egg of *Cuculus canorus* woven into the bottom of the nest-lining; also an egg of the Reed-Warbler found on the ground under the nest.

5. Nest of White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*) with five eggs and one Cuckoo's egg. This was found by Mr. Read in Sweden on a small island in a lake under a comparatively small flat stone lying close to the water's edge and not an inch above water-level.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 18th of March, 1903, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m.

P.S.—The Members are reminded that the next Meeting of the Club will be devoted to an exhibition of lantern-slides.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater, *Chairman.*

R. Bowdler Sharpe (*Editor*).

W. E. de Winton, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XCVI.

The ninety-fifth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of March, 1903.

Chairman: Howard Saunders.

Members present:—Boyd Alexander, H. Ashby, E. Bidwell, F. E. Blaauw, J. L. Bonhote, Colonel C. T. Bingham, B. A. E. Buttress, S. R. Clarke, R. A. Crowley, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, H. J. Elwes, F.R.S., F. W. Frohawk, C. Garnett, F. Gayner, J. Gerrard, F. Gillett, H. Goodchild, H. F. Carruthers Gould, E. Hartert, Hon. Gerald Lascelles, Colonel L'Estrange, Colonel A. P. Loyd, Colonel E. S. Mason, J. G. Millais, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, E. S. Montagu, H. Munt, E. Neale, H. Noble, C. E. Pearson, H. J. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, M.D., T. Digby Pigott, C.B., H. L. Popham, A. E. Price, W. P. Pycraft, Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P., A. D. Sapsworth, A. S. G. Sargeaunt, W. L. Sclater, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), D. Seth-Smith, W. B. Tegetmeier, Major H. Terry, A. Thorburn, Watkin Watkins, C. Whymper, J. Wilkinson, Capt. L. A. Williams, H. F. Witherby, A. F. R. Wollaston, C. A. Wright.

Visitors: S. Bastien, H. J. Bidwell, Colonel J. Bonhote, A. H. Chayter, J. C. Crowley, C. J. H. Davis, H. C. Dick, E. V. Earle, G. Evans, C. E. Fagan, A. E. Gage, B. Herbert, J. R. V. Marchant, T. S. Montagu, N. G. Pearson, F. R. Radcliffe, W. E. Renaut, T. H. J. Troubridge.

Mr. Howard Saunders made some remarks on the work of the Committee for the preservation of the Kite in Wales, and recommended that Mr. H. E. Forrest, of Shrewsbury, be requested to cooperate with Dr. Salter and Mr. Cambridge Phillips in their efforts to stop the raiding of the nests of this bird.

Colonel Rippon described a new species of *Suthora* from Yun-nan:—

Suthora styani, n. sp.

Similis *S. brunneæ* sed pallidior, gastræo valde pallidiore; gutture et præpectore albidis, nec vinaceis, conspicue rufescenti-brunneo striolatis. Long. tot. circa 5·2 poll., culm. 0·4, alæ 2·1, caudæ 2·6, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Tali Valley, W. Yun-nan.

Lieut. Boyd Alexander described two new species of birds from Fernando Po:—

Estrilda elizæ, n. sp.

E. similis *E. nonnulæ*, sed gastræo griseo tincto, subcaudalibus plumbeis. Long. tot. circa 3·8 poll., culm. 0·4, alæ 1·9, caudæ 1·7, tarsi 0·66.

Hab. Moka, Fernando Po, Dec. 14, 1902.

Melanopteryx maxwelli, n. sp.

M. similis *M. albinuchæ*, sed plumis notæi et gastræi omnibus basaliter griseis, notæo, gutture et pectore nigerrimis. Long. tot. circa 5·5 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·0, caudæ 2·1, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Moka, Fernando Po, Oct. 31, 1902.

Colonel C. T. Bingham described the following species from the Mekong River:—

Suthora craddocki, n. sp.

♂. Forehead, crown, nape, back, rump, and upper tail-coverts orange-brown, shaded on the nape and back with olive-brown; wings brown, the primaries edged externally with white, the secondaries and tertiaries broadly edged with bright orange-brown; the primary-coverts brown, forming a conspicuous patch on the upper portion of the wing; tail brown, the outer webs of the feathers bright orange-brown for three-fourths of their length from the base; lores, cheeks, and a long supercilium white, the white of the cheeks extending on to the sides of the neck; ear-coverts brown; chin and throat black, shading into grey on the upper breast; abdomen and under tail-coverts bright orange-brown; flanks anteriorly more or less white; upper mandible horny, lower mandible fleshy yellow; legs and feet in life apparently fleshy brown. Length about 4 inches, wing 1·8, tail 1·9, bill from gape 0·3, tarsus 0·7.

Hab. Procured on Loi-Pang-Nan, 8500 feet east of Keng-tung, in the valley of the Mekong River.

This species resembles *S. verreauxi*, Sharpe, from the hills of Western Szechuen and Moupin, but has a longer and more massive bill, and the abdomen and under tail-coverts are bright orange-brown, not white.

Urocichla reptata, n. sp.

♂. Entire upper plumage umber-brown, the posterior margins of the feathers of the head, neck, back, rump, wing-coverts, and upper tail-coverts narrowly barred with black, giving a squamate appearance to the plumage; wings and tail plain brown, the primaries and secondaries edged with brighter umber-brown; lores, ear-coverts, and chin ashy grey; throat, breast, and flanks umber-brown, the feathers on the thorax and upper breast rather indistinctly speckled with grey; middle of the abdomen dark bluish grey; vent and under tail-coverts umber-brown. Bill horny; legs and feet in life apparently fleshy brown. Length 4·5 inches, wing 1·8, tail 1·5, bill from gape 0·55, tarsus 0·7.

Hab. Procured on Loi-Pang-Nan, 8300 feet east of Keng-tung, in the valley of the Mekong River.

This makes the third species of *Urocichla* found in the hills of India, Assam, and Burma. It differs conspicuously from the other two species in the darker and more uniform colouring of the plumage above and below, and in having the middle of the abdomen dark grey, not white as in

U. longicaudata, nor black with white shaft-stripes and spots as in *U. caudata.*

Mr. Ernst Hartert exhibited a new Weaver-bird, which he described as follows :—

Urobrachya phœnicea quanzæ, subsp. nov.

Urobrachya nigra, rostro albido-griseo, pedibus nigrescentibus, alarum tectricibus minoribus scarlatino-aurantiis, majoribus subalaribusque pallide cinnamomeis. Alæ 94, caudæ 70, tarsi 27½, rostr. culm. 19½ mm.

Hab. Barraca, ad flumen Quanza dictum, Angola (no. 561).

A single male collected at Barraca, on the Quanza River, by Mr. Hubert C. Pemberton, appears to be nearest to *U. traversii*, which is perhaps not different from *U. phœnicea*, but is larger, with a larger bill. The lesser upper wing-coverts are reddish orange, the larger wing-coverts and under wing-coverts lighter cinnamon. The measurements of wing and tail are only approximate, but rather under than over the truth, as the wing is somewhat abraded, and the tail very much so. Mr. Hartert considered that all the known forms, except perhaps *U. axillaris*, might be regarded as subspecies of *U. phœnicea.*

Capt. G. E. Shelley described a new species of *Coccopygia*, which had been sent for examination by Professor Barboza du Bocage, Director of the Lisbon Museum :—

Coccopygia bocagei, n. sp.

Similis *C. dufresnei*, sed interscapulio magis distincte fasciato, pectore medio abdomine et subcandalibus læte citrino-flavis distinguenda. Long. tot. 3·4 poll., culmen 0·3, alæ 1·8, caudæ 1·2, tarsi 0·5.

Hab. Benguela (*typus in Mus. Lisb.*).

The exhibition of lantern-slides, to which the evening was devoted, proved to be of unusual interest, and some very fine photographs taken by members of the Club were shown.

Mr. H. J. Pearson exhibited some pictures of bird-life in Russian Lapland, showing the nests and eggs of the Shore-Lark, Velvet Scoter, Red-necked Phalarope, Turnstone, and Red-throated Diver, as well as some interesting illustrations of life in the Arctic Regions.

Mr. T. Digby Pigott, C.B., showed two photographs of the nest of the Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) as observed last year on Sheringham Common in Norfolk: one representing the old bird on the nest, and the other the two young birds and an egg. The photographs were of value, as there appears to be but one other record of the nesting of the Long-eared Owl on the ground in Britain.

On behalf of Mr. Horace Munro, C.B., pictures of the nests and eggs of the Wood-Pigeon (*Columba palumbus*) and the Stock-Dove (*C. œnas*) were shown by Mr. Digby Pigott.

Mr. Bernard A. E. Buttress showed some capitally executed photographs taken by himself, portraying the nests of Red Grouse (*Lagopus scoticus*), Teal (*Nettium crecca*), Wild Duck (*Anas boscas*), and a nest of a Brown-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*), the last having been taken possession of by a Coot.

Mr. Harry F. Witherby exhibited a series of slides showing a method of catching Quails by means of a call and a net, which he had seen practised very successfully at Shiraz in Persia. He also showed a photograph of a large collection of nests of the House-Martin (*Chelidon urbica*) in a caravanserai between Bushire and Shiraz.

A series of photographs representing principally the nesting-habits of birds in the Cambridgeshire fens, taken by himself and by Mr. Farren of Cambridge, was shown by Mr. E. S. Montagu.

Dr. Penrose exhibited some slides taken by Mr. Metcalfe in Yorkshire. Several were remarkably distinct, and one of a Grasshopper Warbler sitting was specially noteworthy. Mr. Metcalfe's results are particularly interesting as showing what excellent results can be obtained with an ordinary camera and lens.

Mr. J. L. Bonhote showed some excellent photographs of living birds taken from specimens in his own Aviaries.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe exhibited a series of slides dealing with Selborne and the history of Gilbert White.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 15th of April, 1903, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m.

(Signed)

Howard Saunders,	R. Bowdler Sharpe,	W.E. de Winton,
Chairman.	*(Editor).*	*Sec. & Treas.*

[N.B.—A further sum of 28*s*. was subscribed by members towards the "Kite Protection" fund.]

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XCVII.

THE ninety-sixth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of April, 1903.

Chairman: HOWARD SAUNDERS.

Members present:—BOYD ALEXANDER, E. BIDWELL, W. E. DE WINTON (*Treasurer*), F. D. DREWITT, M.D., E. N. F. FENWICK, F. W. FROHAWK, F. GOODCHILD, E. HARTERT, Major H. JONES, E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, E. S. MONTAGU, E. NEALE, T. PARKIN, H. L. POPHAM, A. E. PRICE, W. P. PYCRAFT, H. E. RAWSON, A. D. SAPSWORTH, W. R. SAUNDERS, W. L. SCLATER, F. C. SELOUS, D. SETH-SMITH, W. B. TEGETMEIER, WATKIN WATKINS, Capt. L. A. WILLIAMS, H. F. WITHERBY, W. H. WORKMAN.

Visitors: W. G. FAUBRIDGE, J. S. PARKIN, Major F. W. PROCTOR, F. R. RATCLIFFE, L. M. SETH-SMITH.

A communication from Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE stated that the British Museum had lately received the nest and eggs (the latter unfortunately broken) of the Antipodes Island Pipit (*Anthus steindachneri*), with the parent bird. This species differed from *Anthus novæ zealandiæ* principally in the rufous colour of the under wing-coverts and axillaries, which were whitish in the New Zealand Pipit. The specimens had been sent by Lieut. Kennett Dixon, of H.M.S. 'Archer.'

Dr. BOWDLER SHARPE also stated that from specimens recently brought home by Messrs. Seimund and Grant from

Deelfontein, in the Cape Colony, it was evident that two species had been confounded by authors under the name of *Ægithalus capensis.* The name of *capensis* would have to be dropped, as Sonnerat's plate, on which Gmelin founded his *Parus capensis,* was irrecognizable, and the earliest name seemed to be *Sylvia minuta,* founded on Levaillant's "Figuier Becque Fleur," from Oliphant's River, so that the species would have to be called *Anthoscopus minutus* (Shaw), while the lighter-coloured form must bear the name of *Anthoscopus smithi* of Jardine and Selby. *A. minutus* was a much darker bird, dull ashy in colour, with dark olivaceous rump, and the under surface dull ochreous, while in *A. minutus* the underparts were lighter and more sulphur-yellow, the upper surface being much lighter, grey on the head, light olive-greenish on the back, and slightly more saffron-yellow on the rump.

Colonel Rippon described a species of *Proparus* from Western Yunnan, which he proposed to call

Proparus sordidior, n. sp.

Similis *P. ruficapillo,* Verr., sed coloribus fuscescentioribus, pileo fere chocolatino, striga nigra ad latera pilei distincta distinguendus. Long. tot. 5·0 poll., culmen 0·4, alæ 2·1, caudæ 2·1, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Gyi-dzin-shán, east of Talifu, W. Yun-nan, 9100 feet, April 2, 1902.

Capt. G. E. Shelley described the following new species from specimens recently forwarded by Mr. Alfred Sharpe, C.B., H.B.M. Consul-General and Commissioner for British Central Africa, from Nyasa-Land, and collected by Mr. McClounie.

1. **Callene sharpei,** n. sp.

♂. Similis *C. cyornithopsidi,* Sharpe, sed supercilio lato albido, et plaga lorali nigra distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 5·0 poll., alæ 2·6, caudæ 1·8, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Masisi Hill, 5000 feet, Sept. 1902.

Named after Dr. Bowdler Sharpe.

2. **Callene macclounii**, n. sp.

Similis *C. anomalæ*, Shelley, sed capite alisque saturatioribus, griseis, supercilio albo lato, capite laterali antico nigro distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 6·0 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 3·1, caudæ 2·4, tarsi 1·3.

Hab. ~~N~~Mwenembe, 7500 feet (*McClounie*).

Named after Mr. McClounie.

3. **Alcippe stictigula**, n. sp.

♂. Similis *A. abyssinicæ*, sed capite et eollo postico saturate cinereis, fronte et facie antica nigris; pilei plumis medialiter nigro striatis; genis et gula albis, nigro maculatim striatis. Long. tot. circa 6·0 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·6, caudæ 2·6, tarsi 1·0.

Hab. Mwenembe, 7500 feet, Sept. 1902.

4. **Bleda alfredi**, n. sp.

Similis *B. albostriatæ*, sed pileo brunneo vix rufescente, minime cinereo; supracaudalibus rufescenti-brunneis; cauda sericeo-brunnea, olivascenti lavata; regione parotica brunnea; corpore subtus albo, plumis flavicanti marginatis, quasi striatis. Long. tot. 6·7 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 3·2, caudæ 3·0, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Mwenembe, 7500 feet, Sept. 1902.

Named after Consul-General Alfred Sharpe, C.B.

5. **Nectarinia salvadorii**, n. sp.

♂. Similis *N. johnstoni*, sed statura minore, rostro conspicue minore distinguenda. Long. tot. 10·2 poll., culm. 0·9, alæ 3·05, caudæ 7·0, tarsi 0·6.

Hab. Kachere, 8400 feet.

Named after Count Salvadori.

6. **Tricholæma alexandri**, n. sp.

♂. Simile *T. diademato*, Heugl., sed dorso postico et supracaudalibus pallide flavis, plumis singulis fascia duplici nigra ornatis, facie antica nigra, albo marmorata; genis, mento et gula superiore albis; corpore subtus albo, nigro conspicue maculato, gutture imo et pectore antice plumis læte sed pallide flavo terminatis. Long. tot. circa 5·7 poll., culm. 0·75, alæ 3·0, caudæ 2·0, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Namwewe, Sept. 1902.

Named after Capt. Boyd Alexander.

Mr. Ernst Hartert exhibited an example of a new species of *Calamocichla*, which he characterized as follows:—

Calamocichla cunenensis, n. sp.

C. supra brunneo-grisea, linea supralorali supraoculari albida, auricularibus brunnescentibus; subtus albescens, lateribus cinereo tinctis, subalaribus albis. Al. 76, caud. 75, metatars. 26, culm. 18 mm.

Hab. Ad flumen Cunene dictum, A. W. Eriksson coll. 3 iv. 1880. (Typus no. 741, Mus. Tring.)

Obs.—A single specimen, obtained on the Cunene River, April 3, 1880, by the late A. W. Eriksson, differs from *C. gracilirostris* in its greyish, instead of rufous-brown, upper surface and by the larger size. The structure is the same. Mr. Hartert ventured to think that *C. gracilirostris* and *C. cunenensis* were congeneric with *C. brevipennis* and *C. newtoni*. If not united with *Acrocephalus*, they ought to be included in *Calamocichla*, but not in *Lusciniola*. They are close allies of the Reed-Warblers (*cf.* Novitates Zoologicæ, 1898, p. 70).

Mr. H. F. Witherby exhibited a specimen of *Erithacus gutturalis* with the under surface of the body white. The specimen was obtained at an altitude of about 7000 feet, near Kuh-i-Dinar, in South-west Persia. In the same district two or three other white-breasted specimens were seen, and the bird was certainly not a different species, but an aberration or variation from the ordinary type.

Mr. Witherby further exhibited and narrated the story of his finding the nest of *Lusciniola neglecta*, with the eggs. The nest was built in a *Mimosa* bush 3 feet from the ground, on a rocky hill-side at an elevation of about 6600 feet, near Dasht-i-arjin, S.W. Persia. The eggs have apparently not been described before.

Mr. Witherby also exhibited some eggs of *Chettusia leucura* taken by him near Shiraz, Persia. The eggs of this bird had been described by Mr. Dresser ('Ibis,' 1902, p. 177, plate vi.). The eggs shown by Mr. Witherby were found in a 'scoop' of ground lined with grass in the drier part of a marsh near Shiraz. The nest and the eggs and the habits of the birds greatly resembled those of the Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*).

Colonel Bingham described a new species of *Suthora* as

Suthora thompsoni, n. sp.

♀. Resembles *S. davidiana*, Slater, from Foh-kien, but is distinctly smaller and differs in the points noted below. Forehead, crown, sides of the head and nape chestnut, of a much deeper colour than in *S. davidiana* and not extending on to the upper back; along the posterior margin of the nape the chestnut colour gets somewhat paler; back, rump and wing-coverts clear, rather dark, ash-grey; wings brown, the quill-feathers, secondaries, and tertiaries with the outer margins narrowly light chestnut; upper tail-coverts and the outer webs of the tail-feathers above chestnut, of a lighter shade than the colour of the head; inner webs of the tail-feathers brown; chin and throat uniform deep black, entirely without the white spots so conspicuous in *S. davidiana*; upper breast albescent, remainder of the breast and flanks grey like the back; abdomen, lower tail-coverts, and tail beneath pale ochraceous: bill (in the skin) yellow, (in the flesh) "fleshy pink; irides reddish brown; legs and feet fleshy yellow" (*Craddock*). Length, ♀ 3·7–3·8 inches, wing 2·1, tail 1·45, bill from gape 0·3, tarsus 0·65.

Hab. "Shot north-east of Kyatpyin village near the Paunglaung stream in the Loilong State at 2500 feet, on 18th March, 1902" (*Craddock*).

Mr. W. B. Tegetmeier exhibited a specimen of *Phasianus hagenbecki*, out of a number which had lately been offered for sale in Leadenhall Market.

Mr. T. Parkin exhibited some eggs of the Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) which had been found in the nest of a Rook (*Trypanocorax frugilegus*) built in Portugal laurels.

Mr. Howard Saunders read some letters from Dr. Salter, and gave an account of the proceedings of the "Kite Protection Committee."

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 20th of May, 1903, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m.

(Signed)

Howard Saunders, *Chairman.*	R. Bowdler Sharpe, (*Editor*).	W. E. de Winton, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XCVIII.

THE ninety-seventh Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of May, 1903.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—BOYD ALEXANDER, E. BIDWELL, Colonel C. T. BINGHAM, J. L. BONHOTE, W. C. J. RUSKIN BUTTERFIELD, W. E. DE WINTON (*Treasurer*), H. E. DRESSER, H. J. ELWES, F.R.S., F. GILLETT, H. GOODCHILD, E. HARTERT, E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, E. S. MONTAGU, H. MUNT, E. NEALE, T. PARKIN, C. E. PEARSON, F. PENROSE, M.D., E. LORT PHILLIPS, A. E. PRICE, W. P. PYCRAFT, R. H. READ, A. D. SAPSWORTH, D. SETH-SMITH, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D. (*Editor*), E. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, W. B. TEGETMEIER.

Visitors: Dr. C. CHRISTY, Dr. F. LIPPELT, Amtsrath AD. NEHRKORN, Colonel C. SWINHOE.

The CHAIRMAN gave to Herr Nehrkorn a warm welcome on behalf of the Club, to which that gentleman suitably replied.

Dr. SCLATER gave a short account of his recent tour round the Mediterranean in the Orient-Pacific S.S. 'Cuzco,' in the course of which he had visited Palma, Nice, Palermo, Crete, Cyprus, Beyrout, Baalbec, Damascus, Haifa, Acre, Jaffa, Jerusalem, Jericho, Alexandria, Cairo, Algiers, Gibraltar, Lisbon, and other places, and had seen much of

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ornithological interest, although he was naturally not able to collect or even to observe, except in the most casual manner.

At Nice Dr. Sclater had visited the new Ostrich-farm recently established there by some Americans. The birds were mostly of the Cape form (*Struthio camelus capensis*), and had been imported from California, but some young birds of the northern form had been lately received. All seemed to be in a thriving condition and were commencing to breed. This was the first attempt, so far as Dr. Sclater knew, to establish an Ostrich-farm in any part of Europe.

At Palermo Dr. Sclater had met with a most kind reception from his friend Mr. Joseph I. S. Whitaker (well known to the B. O. C.) and had inspected with great interest the mounted collection of Sicilian Birds in Mr. Whitaker's private Museum at Malfitano. Mr. Whitaker was also the owner of an excellent series of Tunisian and Algerian birds in skin, and was devoting his spare time to a work on Tunisian ornithology which was expected to be shortly ready for publication.

Leaving Palermo on March 10th the 'Cuzco' had touched at Candia in Crete on the 13th and at Kyrenia in Cyprus on the 15th, and had stayed 12 hours at each of them. Chimney-Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*) were noticed abundant and apparently already paired at both these places. Dr. Sclater remarked that very little had been done in Ornithology in Crete for many years *, and that, now that the island was free from Turkish misrule and English visitors were welcomed, the island offered a fair field for exploration, as the high mountains might be expected to produce some attractive species. Of the birds of Cyprus we had Lord Lilford's List (Ibis, 1889, p. 305), but even there additions might be made.

From Cyprus the 'Cuzco' proceeded to Beyrout, whence a most interesting land excursion was made by railway over the Lebanon Range (which was found still covered with snow) to Baalbec and Damascus. At Beyrout Dr. Sclater had examined the Collection of Syrian Birds in the Zoological Museum of the Syrian Protestant College—an American Institution which was doing a great educational work in Syria. The collection had been made by Dr. W. T. Van Dyck—an occasional contributor to 'The Ibis' (see Ibis, 1892, p. 462)—and had been transferred by him, when he found that his engagements would no longer permit him to attend to it, to the College Museum. It was now under the care of Mr. A. E. Day, the Professor of Natural Science. The basis of our knowledge of the birds of Syria and Palestine was, of course, Canon Tristram's excellent volume on the 'Fauna and Flora' of those countries; but both Dr. Van Dyck and Prof. Day were of opinion that much remained to be done in ornithology, especially in the Lebanon, and they promised their best assistance to any member of the B. O. U. who would like to make an expedition to that district.

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* The only account of the birds of Crete that I know of is Col. Drummond's 'List' in Ann. Nat. Hist. xii. p. 423, with notes by H. E. Strickland (1843).—P. L. S.

In Palestine, so far as Dr. Sclater's hasty visit allowed him to form an opinion, birds were generally rare, though more abundant in the Jordan Valley than in the hill-country. The only local Ornithologist he could hear of was Mr. Selah Merrill, the U.S. Consul at Jerusalem, who had formed a collection of birds for his correspondents in America, and was still occasionally engaged in collecting and observing.

Dr. Sclater had stopped six days in Cairo, where the chief objects of zoological attraction were the collection of animals in the Medical School and the Zoological Gardens at Gizeh. The former, under the care of Dr. Walter Innes, comprised a series of mounted specimens of the birds of Egypt, to which it was now proposed to add a collection of skins. Dr. Innes had recently taken part in an expedition to the White Nile, and had obtained a good series of specimens from that district. He was likewise well acquainted with the birds of Lower Egypt, and had planned the issue of a popular work on this subject.

The Zoological Gardens at Gizeh, of which Capt. Stanley Flower, F.Z.S., was Director, were in a very flourishing condition, and contained living examples of many birds of interest. Amongst them were three specimens of the Shoe-bill Stork (*Balæniceps rex*) lately received from the White Nile.

At Cairo Dr. Sclater had met with Mr. W. L. S. Loat, F.Z.S., who was passing the winter and spring in Lower Egypt, and was collecting birds, first in the Wady Natron, and subsequently on Lake Menzaleh, and hoped to be able to furnish an account of the results to 'The Ibis.' Dr. Sclater also had the pleasure of meeting Dr. and Madame Koenig, of Bonn, on their return from a very successful expedition through Dongola from Wady Halfa to Khartoum, during which a series of upwards of 400 specimens had been collected. It was understood that Dr. Koenig was also contemplating a general work on the birds of Egypt.

On the return voyage the 'Cuzco' had put into Lisbon for a few hours, and the opportunity had been taken of inspecting the well-known Museum of Zoology there which adjoins the Botanical Gardens. There were three series of birds in it: the General Collection; the African Collection (to which Prof. Barboza du Bocage had devoted special care and attention for many years); and the Portuguese Collection. In all of them the birds were mounted in the old style, but it was stated that there was also a considerable number of specimens in skin. The pearl of the General Collection was a fine mounted specimen of the Great Auk (*Alca impennis*) which had been presented by King Victor Emmanuel of Italy some twenty years ago, and there was an egg of the bird in the same case. Dr. Sclater was unfortunate in not meeting Prof. Bocage, but had received a good report of his health from one of his Assistants, who had most courteously showed Dr. Sclater round the Museum, and had given him all facilities required for the examination of the specimens.

Mr. de Winton exhibited, on behalf of Mr. W. Eagle Clarke, a specimen of an adult male of *Motacilla borealis*.

Mr. Eagle Clarke gave the following details:—"This specimen was submitted to me for determination by my friend Mr. J. H. Nelson, who is continuing my work on the 'Birds of Yorkshire.' It was captured in a lark-net at

Halifax in the spring of 1901, and is now in the collection of Mr. Arthur Crabtree of that town, who obtained it from a friend who saw the specimen in the flesh. It is very surprising that this species is not somewhat more frequent in its visits to our shores, when on passage to and from its Scandinavian summer haunts, and yet I believe this to be the first really authentic record of its occurrence in the British Isles."

Mr. W. Ruskin Butterfield exhibited a specimen of the Black-headed Wagtail, *Motacilla feldeggi* of Michahelles, which had been shot near Willingdon, Sussex, on May 13th last, and examined by himself in the flesh and in fresh condition. The specimen had been compared with the series of *M. feldeggi* in the British Museum, and there could be no doubt that it was rightly identified. It was a male in fine plumage. The species was not known to have previously occurred in the British Islands.

Mr. Butterfield also exhibited two males of the Grey-headed Wagtail, *Motacilla borealis*, Sundev., procured on the same day and near the same place. One of these specimens had been handled in the flesh, and the other (a somewhat damaged bird) shortly after it had been skinned. They presented slight differences, both in coloration and in the length of the bill and claws, but Dr. Bowdler Sharpe and Mr. Butterfield had found no difficulty in matching them with examples of *M. borealis* in the British Museum series.

Mr. W. B. Tegetmeier exhibited some eggs of the Common Duck (*Anas boscas*) to show how the colour of the eggs could be varied by selection, also some spotted eggs of Pheasants, and a white egg of the Red Grouse (*Lagopus scoticus*).

An interesting discussion ensued, in which Herr Nehrkorn, Mr. Hartert, and others took part.

Mr. Ernst Hartert exhibited a new Flycatcher from Waigiu, which he described as follows:—

Cryptolopha waigiuensis, n. sp.

Supra flavescenti-olivaceo-viridis, unicolor, supracaudalibus tantum olivascentioribus, aŭricularibus pallidioribus; remigibus fuscis, extus tergi colore, intus albido marginatis; cauda fusco-brunnea, olivaceo marginata. Subtus albida, sulphureo lavata; gutture albidiore, pectoris lateribus olivascentibus; subalaribus albidis, sulphureo tinctis. Rostro brunnescente, mandibula pallida. Al. 52–55, caud. 40, metatars. 15·5–16·5, culm. 12·6–13·7 mm.

Habitat in insula 'Waigiu' dicta.

Obs. "This very interesting addition to the Papuan fauna is another instance of the more eastern extent of Indo-Malayan forms, to which I have recently referred on several occasions, when introducing new forms of *Cryptolopha* from Buru, Obi Major, and Batjan, new *Phyllergates* from Flores, Buru, and Batjan, and others.

"*Cryptolopha waigiuensis* is above yellowish olive-green, slightly more yellowish green in some specimens, more olivaceous in others. The lores are whitish, the ear-coverts like the upper surface, but much paler. Remiges deep brown, outwardly edged with the colour of the upperside, inwardly with whitish. Tail fuscous-brown, edged with olive. Under surface whitish, strongly washed with sulphur-yellow, the throat more whitish, the sides of the breast washed with olivaceous. The bill appears to be brown, the under mandible pale, the feet brownish grey, but the colours of these parts are not described by the collector. The sexes do not differ perceptibly.

"Five specimens were collected by Mr. John Waterstradt on the island of Waigiu, in December 1902.

"Type, ♀ (no. 3211), Waigiu, 15. xii. 1902, in the Tring Museum."

Mr. Ernst Hartert further exhibited the type of a new Oligomyodian genus and species recently described by him, *Sapayoa ænigma*, from N.W. Ecuador: also specimens of

Turdus merula merula, Turdus merula cabreræ, and *Turdus merula mauritanicus* recently described by him in his accounts of his travels, as well as examples of the continental and the British Robin, to show the differences between *Erithacus rubecula rubecula* and *Erithacus rubecula melophilus.*

A discussion ensued, in which Mr. Elwes, Mr. Meade-Waldo, Mr. Lort Phillips, Mr. Hartert, Mr. Butterfield, and others took part.

Mr. D. Seth-Smith exhibited some specimens of the nestlings of *Turnix* and *Excalfactoria,* and made the following remarks:—

"The nesting-habits of the Hemipodes, or Bustard-Quails, being particularly interesting, I thought the members might like to hear that the young of the Indian Bustard-Quail (*Turnix tanki*) had lately been hatched in my aviary.

"*Turnix tanki* has only been imported alive to England on two or three occasions, so far as I am aware. The Zoological Society has only once possessed specimens, a pair having been presented by Mr. Harper, of Calcutta, in 1901, which lived only a few months.

"I was so fortunate as to secure three living specimens—a male and two females—in October last, and have noticed one or two very interesting points about the species.

"Mr. Ogilvie-Grant, in his monograph of the genus *Turnix,* published in the 'Ibis' of 1889 (pp. 446–475), in comparing the different species, says that 'the black throats, the rufous nuchal collars, and such-like marks, which distinguish the adult females in the different groups, are not seasonal or nuptial plumages, as supposed by some authors, but denote maturity, and are to be found at all seasons in fully adult females.'

"Now in *Turnix tanki* the rufous collar is a very conspicuous feature of the adult female, and my two birds, when obtained early in October, were in full plumage, with this characteristic adornment well developed. In November, however, they moulted, and completely lost the rufous collar, and the sexes could then be only distinguished by size. In March the breeding-plumage was gradually assumed again, and at the same time the two females began to get savage and had to be separated, one being left with the male in a large aviary in which an even temperature of about 60° Fahr. was maintained. On April 25th I discovered one egg in a slight nest of hay close to the door. On the 27th a second egg was laid, and a third on the following day. The male then took possession of the nest (April 28th) and commenced to sit steadily, the female from this time taking no further notice of the nest, but going about, apparently in search of another husband.

"On May 10th all three eggs hatched, about ten days before they were expected, incubation having lasted *twelve days* only, which is very remarkable considering that the young, when hatched, are as well developed and clothed with down as any of the young of the true Quails. I may remark that the young of *Excalfactoria chinensis*, which are of much the same size, and certainly more fully-developed at birth, take 21 days to hatch.

"On account of the very cold weather it was almost impossible to provide a sufficient quantity of insect-food, and artificial food they would not touch, so that unfortunately two of the chicks died; and I have much pleasure in exhibiting them here to-night. The third is alive and doing well. At ten days old, it is nearly fully feathered and can fly.

"I have also brought up for exhibition a mounted chick of *Excalfactoria chinensis* only four days old, and one of the Australian form, *E. lineata*, of about the same age, in order to show the extent to which the young of these two forms differ in colour, the young of the typical *E. chinensis* having very distinct buff lines down the back, these lines being absent in the Australian form, the chick being almost entirely black."

Mr. E. Lort Phillips exhibited a remarkably beautiful cinnamon variety of a Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticula*) which had been shot at Milford, Co. Donegal, Ireland, on the 19th January, 1903. This specimen had been presented to the British Museum.

Captain SHELLEY communicated the following notes on African *Ploceidæ* and *Alaudidæ* :—

"Mr. A. L. Butler, who is in charge of the Game Preservation Department of the Soudan, has recently sent me examples of two new species of *Pyrrhulauda* which I describe as follows :—

"PYRRHULAUDA BUTLERI, n. sp.

"♂. Similar to *P. nigriceps*, Gould, from which it differs in the greater breadth of the black on the hinder half of the crown, this being slightly broader than the white frontal portion of the head ; hind-neck white, passing through a dusky shade into the isabelline colouring of the back.

"*Hab.* Twenty miles W. of Omdurman, Jan. 2, 1903 (130).

"PYRRHULAUDA LACTEIDORSALIS, n. sp.

"♂ (breeding). Similar to *P. leucotis*, from which it differs in having the mantle, the pale edges of the wing-feathers and centre tail-feathers of a cream-colour, which extends over nearly the whole of the lesser wing-coverts ; hind-neck white, with a narrow black basal band.

"Khartoum, Nov. 25, 1902 (77).

"The following notes refer to some species of *Ploceidæ* :—

"COLIUSPASSER DELAMEREI, n. sp.

"♂. Similar to *C. procne*, from which it differs in being slightly larger, the males in full breeding-plumage having longer tails. Total length 25·5 inches, culmen 0·7, wing 5·5, tail 21·0, tarsus 1·05.

"North Kenya, March 17, 1900 (*Lord Delamere*).

"If in the genus *Estrilda* we separate as sub-species of *E. astrild*, Linn., *E. rubriventris* and *E. minor* (*cf.* Sharpe, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xiii. p. 393), we shall have to go further and divide this group into seven races, for which I give the following key :—

"*a.* Less red on the plumage ; no crimson shade on the mantle.
  a'. Sides of head and the upper throat less pure white.

a^2. Rarely any trace of red on the upper tail-coverts.	
a^3. Upper parts more dusky brown .	*cavendishi,* Sharpe, 1900.
b^3. Upper parts more earthy brown .	*astrild,* Linn., 1766.
b^2. Upper tail-coverts and basal portion of some of the tail-feathers tinted with crimson.	
c^3. Upper parts paler and more ashy	*damarensis,*Reichen.,1902.
d^3. Upper parts darker	*sanctæ-helenæ,* n. sp.
b'. Sides of head and upper throat purer white.	
c^2. Less rosy shade on the neck and front of chest	*occidentalis,* Jard. & Fras., [1851.
d^2. More rosy shade on the neck and front of chest	*peasei,* n. sp.
b. More red on the plumage ; mantle washed with crimson	*rubriventris* (Vieill.),1823.

"It appears to me to be unnecessary to recognize these forms as more than races of *E. astrild,* Linn.; but as such they are all equally deserving of notice. *E. cavendishi,* Sharpe (Ibis, 1900, p. 110), known by the type only, may be the race of Eastern S. Africa; like typical *E. astrild* and *E. occidentalis,* it shows no trace of red on the upper tail-coverts and basal portion of the tail, this latter character being prevalent only in the more western races, although I have met with it fairly developed in one of Sir John Kirk's specimens from Ugogo.

"As regards the shade of colouring, the Natal, or typical, race is about intermediate between *E. cavendishi* and *E. damarensis,* Reichen. (Orn. Monatsb. 1902, p. 173). In the amount of red on the upper tail-coverts and basal portion of the tail, *E. damarensis* is intermediate between the Natal form and the St. Helena bird.

"ESTRILDA SANCTÆ-HELENÆ, n. sp.

"Similar to typical *E. astrild,* from which it differs in having the upper tail-coverts and basal portion of the outer webs of the tail-feathers strongly washed with crimson. Jan. 4, 1874 (*G. E. S.*).

"The Fernando Po specimens recently collected by Lieut. Boyd Alexander are the *Estrilda occidentalis,* Jard. & Fraser

(Contr. Orn. 1851, p. 156), and to this form belongs *Habropyga minor*, Cab. (J. f. O. 1878, p. 229). Some of the specimens of this race from Equatorial Africa I cannot distinguish from other Natal specimens, although, as a rule, they are fairly recognizable. In Southern Abyssinia, both Lord Lovat and Mr. Alfred E. Pease have procured specimens of what I call *E. peasei.*

"ESTRILDA PEASEI, n. sp.

"♂. Similar to *E. occidentalis*, from which it differs in the absence of scarlet on the breast; lower throat and centre of the breast, down to the abdomen, rosy pink; cheeks, ear-coverts, and upper throat pure white. Total length 4·6 inches, culmen 0·35, wing 2·0, tarsus 0·55. Jeffi Dunsa, Dec. 28, 1900.

"*E. occidentalis* ranges southward to the Zambesi and into Angola. In the latter country it appears gradually to assume the plumage of *E. rubriventris* (Vieill.), *fide* Sharpe, Cat. B. M. xiii. p. 393, which plumage is apparently never so fully developed to the south of the Congo as in Loango and Gaboon. For the Loango form Dr. Reichenow has proposed the name *E. astrild angolensis* (Orn. Monatsb. 1902, p. 173).

"COCCOPYGIA CLARKEI, n. sp.

"Similar to *C. subflava* (Vieill.), from which it differs in the entire throat and centre of the breast being paler yellow, with, at most, a slight wash of orange on the crop. Total length 3·8 inches, culmen 0·3, wing 1·8, tail 1·4, tarsus 0·45. ♂. Dec. 8th, 1881, Richmond Road, Natal (*Reid*).

"The female differs from the male in having no red band on the sides of the head, less red on the rump and upper tail-coverts; throat and centre of breast buffy white, with a faint lemon shade on the breast and a shade of orange on under tail-coverts. Wing 1·7 inch. Sept. 15, 1881, Newcastle (*Reid*).

"I have named the present bird after Major Stephenson R. Clarke, whose collection and notes from S. Africa have convinced me that the specimens from Eastern Africa, south the Equator, are distinct from *C. subflava* (Vieill.).

"Of the genus *Pytelia* I recognize two new subspecies:—

"Pytelia jessei, n. subsp.

"♂. Similar to *P. citerior*, Strickl., from which it differs in the white on the feathers towards the crop inclining to rounded spots in full-plumaged males, and in the under tail-coverts having a few narrow brown bars. Wing 2·25 inches. Anseba Valley, July 27, 1868 (*Jesse*).

"Pytelia kirki, n. subsp.

"♂. Similar to *P. melba* (Linn.), from which it differs in having the breast paler and the dark bars less regular and browner; under tail-coverts entirely uniform sandy buff. Lamu (*Kirk*).

"The following 'Key' will show their position in the genus:—

"*a*. Lower throat yellow; some red on the head.	
a'. Red of throat not extending beyond the cheeks.	
a^2. No trace of rounded spots on the crop; under tail-coverts uniform	*citerior*.
b^2. Some rounded spots on the crop; under tail-coverts generally slightly barred	*jessei*, n. subsp.
b'. More red and less yellow on the throat.	
c^2. More black on breast; no trace of bars on under tail-coverts	*melba*.
d^2. Less black on breast.	
a^3. Under tail-coverts uniform sandy buff....	*kirki*, n. subsp.
b^3. Under tail-coverts with some brownish bars.	*soudanensis*."

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 17th of June, 1903, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater,	R. Bowdler Sharpe,	W. E. de Winton,
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. XCIX.

The ninety-eighth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of June, 1903.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, F. Finn, C. Garnett, J. Gerrard, H. Goodchild, W. R. Ogilvie Grant, E. Hartert, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, H. Munt, E. Neale, R. Nesham, F. Penrose, M.D., R. H. Read, A. St. G. Sargeaunt, A. D. Sapsworth, Howard Saunders, D. Seth-Smith, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), W. B. Tegetmeier, N. F. Ticehurst, M.D., Watkin Watkins, C. A. Wright.

Visitor: Capt. Stanley S. Flower.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Members, congratulated Mr. Ogilvie Grant on his safe return from his expedition to the Azores. Mr. Grant, who received a warm welcome from those present, made a few remarks on his visit to the different islands of the Azores, a full account of which will be published later on.

Dr. N. F. Ticehurst exhibited specimens of some Pratincoles recently shot in England. The first was a male Collared Pratincole (*Glareola pratincola*), which had been shot by Mr. Southerden at Jury Gap in Romney Marsh, on the 30th May, 1903. This specimen was seen in the

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flesh by Dr. Ticehurst, and it was probably the first authentic record of the species in Kent (*cf.* Latham, Gen. Hist. ix. p. 361).

The second was a specimen of the Black-winged Pratincole (*Glareola melanoptera*), which was the first recorded from the British Islands. This bird was also a male, and had been shot near the same place as the other Pratincole by F. Mills, a relation of the above-named Mr. Southerden.

Both these specimens were now in the possession of Mr. Fleetwood Ashburnham, of Broomham Park, Sussex, who had kindly allowed them to be exhibited.

Dr. TICEHURST also exhibited a nest, with five eggs, of the Blue-headed Wagtail (*Motacilla flava*), taken in an allotment-garden near Winchelsea, Sussex, on the 21st of May, 1903. This nest was taken within twenty yards of the spot where a nest of the same species was found by Mr. Bristow on the 31st of May, 1901.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD sent for exhibition an example of a new species of Rail, which he described as follows:—

HYPOTÆNIDIA WAKENSIS, n. sp.

Upper surface dark ashy brown, fading to an earthy brown; ear-coverts and lores dark brown, a pale grey superciliary line; chin and upper throat whitish, neck grey, rest of underside ashy brown, on the breast with one, on the abdomen and flanks with two or three narrow white bars; tail uniform brown; quills and under wing-coverts brown, barred with white; bill and feet brown (in skin). Bill 26, metatarsus 33, middle toe with claw 38, wing (rather worn) about 96, tail about 45 mm. Wings and tail very soft, so as to suggest little power of flight.

Wake Island, lat. 19° N., long. 167° E., where a Japanese vessel obtained ten specimens in 1892.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD also sent for exhibition a specimen of a supposed new species of Redstart from Sardinia, entrusted to him by Prof. H. H. Giglioli, who described it as follows:—

RUTICILLA NIGRA, n. sp.

♂. Entirely of a sooty black, the tail-feathers alone showing traces of the orange-brown colour characteristic of the genus. Wing 83 mm., tail 62, culmen 10, tarsus 22.

♀. Precisely similar to the male. Wing 83 mm., tail 62, culmen 9½, tarsus 21½.

The specimens had been captured alive in a haystack at Loceri in Sardinia, and were now in the Central Collection of Italian Vertebrates in the Royal Zoological Museum at Florence.

Mr. Rothschild was inclined to think that this supposed new species might possibly be based on melanistic examples, but the similarity of the male and female and their smaller size were rather against this theory.

Mr. Hartert said that he had not the slightest doubt that the species was nothing but a melanistic variety. Melanism was more or less pathological, and therefore a somewhat smaller size was never surprising and, in fact, of very common occurrence in melanistic aberrations. The difference, moreover, was trivial, and he had seen skins of *R. titys* equally small. The supposed female, he felt sure, had been incorrectly sexed, being equally as large as the male.

Mr. FRANK FINN exhibited a curious variety of the Goldfinch (*Carduelis elegans*), from Ireland, the specimen having a small patch of crimson on each side of the neck behind the black of the face.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS made some remarks on the results, so far, of the efforts of the Committee for the preservation of the Kite in Great Britain.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe submitted diagnoses of the following new species of African birds :—

Spiloptila malopensis, n. sp.

Similis *S. oculari,* sed pallidior, magis fulvescens, pileo colloque vix grisescentibus, superciliis et facie laterali pallide vinaceo-cinnamomeis, hypochondriis et tibiis pallide arenariis, minime striatis.

Hab. Malopo River, Mashona-land (*J. S. Jameson*). Typus in Mus. Brit.

Alario leucolæma, n. sp.

Similis *A. alario,* sed supercilio et gutture albis distinguenda.

Hab. Great Namaqua-land, June (*C. J. Andersson*). Typus in Mus. Brit.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 21st of October, 1903, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street ; the Dinner at 7 p.m.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater, *Chairman.*	R. Bowdler Sharpe, *Editor.*	W. E. de Winton, *Sec. & Treas.*

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ERRATA.

Vol. XII. Preface (*published* Oct. 1902).

For " Rev. A. H. Macpherson " *read* " Rev. H. A. Macpherson."

Vol. XIII.

Page 61, line 16, for "*albostriatæ*" read "*flavostriatæ*." [N.B.—The Editor, and not Captain Shelley, is responsible for this slip.]

Page 72, line 18, *for* " certainly more " *read* " certainly no more."

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

EDITED BY

R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D.

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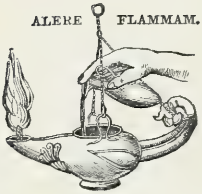
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PREFACE.

Thanks to the ready assistance given by my brother members, the affairs of the Club have proceeded on the same successful lines as in past years, and the present volume of the 'Bulletin' will be found to contain a number of interesting and important records.

I am very grateful to all the kind friends who undertook my duties during my absence in the West Indies last winter, and I have especially to thank my colleague Mr. Ogilvie-Grant for editing the 'Bulletin' while I was away from England.

(Signed) R. BOWDLER SHARPE,
Editor.

October 1*st*, 1904.

RULES

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

(*As amended 20th April,* 1898.)

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session, shall cease, *ipso facto,* to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. Members of the British Ornithologists' Union may be introduced as Visitors at the Meetings of the Club, but every Member of the Club who introduces a Member of the B. O. U. as a Visitor (to dinner or to the Meeting afterwards) shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer, *on each occasion.*

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription.* Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*; with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter Bye-laws.

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[Members are requested to keep the Secretary informed of any changes in their addresses.]

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AND OTHER PERSONS REFERRED TO.

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BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. C.

The ninety-ninth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 21th of October, 1903.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—Lieut. Boyd Alexander, E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, W. Ruskin Butterfield, F. Curtis, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), H. E. Dresser, F. D. Drewitt, M.D., A. H. Evans, F. W. Frohawk, J. Gerrard, H. Goodchild, Ernst Hartert, A. P. Loyd, A. McL. Marshall, J. G. Millais, H. Munt, M. J. Nicoll, T. Parkin, E. Lort Phillips, W. P. Pycraft, F. R. Ratcliff, B. B. Riviere, Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P., A. D. Sapsworth, Howard Saunders, D. Seth-Smith, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), Col. C. Swinhoe, W. B. Tegetmeier, A. Thorburn, C. B. Ticehurst, J. I. S. Whitaker, S. J. White, Chas. J. Wilson, Harry F. Witherby.

Guests: W. G. Cheesman, H. H. Lynes, R.N., Oscar Neumann (*Guest of the Club*), J. S. Parkin, L. M. Seth-Smith, Dr. Traquair.

The Chairman offered a cordial welcome to Mr. Oscar Neumann, who was present as the Guest of the Club, and then gave the following Address:—

On opening the Twelfth Session of this Club, I propose to offer to the assembled Ornithologists a few remarks on recent events relating to the Science to which we are devoted.

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As regards the Palæarctic Region, in which we are all specially interested, the great event of the past year is, of course, the publication of Mr. Dresser's long-promised "Manual" of its birds. On this very useful piece of work, in conjunction with my co-Editor, I have recorded a verdict of approval in the pages of 'The Ibis,' and I need not now do more than say a few words to confirm it. As most of us are engaged in work upon European and North-Asiatic birds, it will be a great convenience to have so large an amount of information on this subject compressed into so small a compass. I have heard it objected to Mr. Dresser's mode of treatment that he has not paid sufficient attention to the "subspecies." While I agree that it would be advisable to mention all the proposed "subspecies" under the head of each species, I think Mr. Dresser has acted wisely in restricting the number of subspecies adopted in his work within narrow limits. Some of our younger brethren, both in Europe and America, are, in my opinion, disposed to augment the number of subspecies rather unduly, and I am glad to see that Mr. Dresser has not followed their example. Mr. Dresser has also been sparing in the use of generic terms, in which practice I likewise agree with him. I consider that the great number of generic names employed by some modern writers, and often based on very slight characters, causes a grievous tax on the memory, and often tends to separate too far what are manifestly nearly allied species. Botanists, who take a wider view of genera than most zoologists, are not afraid in certain cases to place nearly a thousand species in the same genus.

For an instance of a carefully planned expedition in the Palæarctic Region and a well-executed account of its results, I venture to call attention to Mr. Harry F. Witherby's foray into South-west Persia, as recorded in the last number of 'The Ibis.' Although no new species were discovered, a large number of excellent field-notes were made upon birds little known in Europe, and our knowledge of the Persian Ornis was much extended. I am pleased to be able to state that, as announced at a previous meeting of this Club, Mr. Witherby hopes to be able to pay a visit to the much neglected island of Crete next spring, where I am sure we shall all wish him similar success.

Another successful expedition to a much less known part of the Palæarctic Region has just been accomplished by an Australian ornithologist, Mr. Robert Hall, of Melbourne, C.M.Z.S. Intending to visit England this summer, Mr. Hall conceived the original idea of first going north to China and Siberia, and travelling thence to this country by the new Siberian railway. Quitting the railway for a time at Lake Baikal, Mr. Hall crossed over northwards into the basin of the Lena, and descended that river nearly to its mouth. The fine series of some 400 bird-skins obtained by Mr. Hall during this excursion has been acquired by Mr. Rothschild for the Tring museum, and when carefully studied, as it is sure to be at Tring, will, no doubt, give us much information on the little-known avifauna of North-eastern Siberia.

On the other side of the Eastern hemisphere, Mr. Ogilvie-Grant has been engaged, as many of us know, in a summer-excursion to the Azores. The specimens of birds obtained on this occasion are likewise, I am informed, now at Tring and will be worked out there by Mr. Hartert.

Passing to the Ethiopian Region, we find great activity in the collecting and observing of birds lately manifested in nearly every quarter. The large collections lately made by Herr Oscar Neumann and Freiherr v. Erlanger in Eastern Africa have still to be thoroughly worked out, although notes on some of the novelties have been published; and in this country there are good series of Abyssinian birds at the British Museum and at Tring, awaiting close examination. In Western Africa, Lieut. Boyd Alexander and Mr. G. L. Bates have both been exceedingly active. The remarkable results of Lieut. Alexander's expedition to the Island of Fernando Po have excited the admiration of all of us. It seldom falls to the lot of a naturalist in these days to hit upon a spot where so many novelties have lain concealed as in the case last referred to. To accumulate a series of 500 specimens, containing representatives of three new genera and upwards of thirty new species, in a few months is a feat well worthy of special record. Mr. Bates's work has been done in the south of the Camaroons country, and his collections have proved to be of the highest interest.

In South Africa also much ornithological work is now being caraied on. Mr. W. L. Sclater's third volume on the Birds of Africa has been lately issued, and the fourth and concluding volume is, as the author informs me, in a very forward state. The Editors of 'The Ibis' have likewise received papers on two local collections made within the limits of South Africa, which will be printed in the next number of that journal.

There is, however, one portion of Africa which has, as yet, been hardly touched by the ornithologist—I allude to Upper Nigeria and those shores of Lake Tsad which have lately come under British sway, and on the birds of which we should like to have some information. Now that the *Pax Britannica* has been established there, the field is open to the scientific explorer, and I am sure that General Sir Frederick Lugard would be glad to welcome him and render him every possible assistance. We may hope, perhaps not altogether without good reason, that some member of the B. O. U. will undertake this task.

As regards the Oriental Region there is not much in recent discoveries that I need trouble you with on the present occasion. But I may remark that Col. Bingham and his friends have shown us that there are still some new forms (such as *Cerasophilus*) to be picked up in the hills of Upper Burmah, and the discovery of the very remarkable Phasianid *Rheinardtius* in the Malaccan State of Pahang (*cf.* Ibis, 1903, p. 254) is a fact of great interest, although it appears there under a slightly different subspecific form. Much labour has also been lately bestowed at Tring upon the birds of the Eastern Archipelago, and Mr. Hartert is now at work upon collections received there from the islands east of Timor.

In Australia we must not forget to congratulate our

Colonial friends on the success of the Australian Ornithologists' Union and its organ 'The Emu,' which is now in its second volume, and which has already recorded some remarkable discoveries.

With regard to the other side of the Atlantic I will say a few words upon what is going on there in ornithological matters. The second volume of Mr. Ridgway's elaborate work on the 'Birds of North and Middle America' was issued at the close of 1902, but six more volumes will be required to complete this almost herculean task, which, whatever view we may take of the author's special treatment of this subject, cannot fail to add very largely to our knowledge of the Neogean Ornis. But it must be some years before this work can be finally completed. In the meanwhile, however, we may congratulate ourselves that the "Birds" of the 'Biologia Centrali-Americana,' under Mr. Godman's care, have made good progress during the past year, and that we may shortly expect it to be brought to a conclusion.

In South America also much has lately been done. Dr. Goeldi, our ever active correspondent at Pará, has favoured the Editors of 'The Ibis' with an interesting account of his ornithological experiences on the Capim River. At Tring, I am informed, a considerable collection has recently been received from Cayenne, obtained by the well-known American collector Mr. Cherrie. I need hardly point out how desirable it is that this series should be carefully examined, owing to the fact that most of Buffon's and Brisson's South-American type-specimens were procured from that French Colony; and as Mr. Hartert and Graf v. Berlepsch together have undertaken the task, there can be no doubt that it will be efficiently performed.

Finally, as regards South America, I am glad to state that the first volume of Mr. W. E. D. Scott's 'Birds of Patagonia,' based on the collection made by Mr. Hatcher's expedition to that country, is in the hands of the printer, and that the remainder is well under way. You will regret, however, to be told that the accomplished author of the 'Story of a Bird-lover' (one of the most interesting life-histories I have ever read) has been very ill from blood-poisoning in his arm, which has greatly delayed the progress of his work. He is now, however, I am happy to have been informed, making a good recovery.

Turning from geographical matters to general works we find two publications of great interest to all ornithologists lately issued by the British Museum—the fourth volume of Dr. Bowdler Sharpe's 'Hand-list of Birds' and the third volume of the 'Catalogue of Birds' Eggs.' Owing to the great number of additions made of late years to the list of Passerine Birds, a fifth volume has been found necessary to complete the former work, on the importance of which it is not necessary to descant.

The "Aves" of 'Das Tierreich' is also now showing some signs of progress, a new 'Lieferung,' containing Herr Hellmayr's revision of the *Paridæ, Sittidæ,* and *Certhiidæ,* having lately made its appearance. When completed it will be an important work, but I fear few of us will live to witness that event, unless more expedition is shown than is at present apparent.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild exhibited an apparently new species of Albatross, which he described as follows:—

Thalassogeron carteri, n. sp.

Differs from *Thalassogeron chlororhynchus* in having the bill, including the culmen, black, the face and sides of the head white, without the grey tinge of *T. chlororhynchus,* and the feet yellowish white in life, without any blackish colour on the digits and tarsi.

A single male, with an injured wing, was captured alive at Point Cloates, N.W. Australia, on May 12th, 1900, by Mr. Tom Carter. He describes the bill as black, irides black, legs and feet yellowish white. (Type no. T.C. 142 in Mus. Tring.)

Mr. Rothschild also made remarks on a large collection of birds received from the Island of Hainan. He exhibited specimens of the beautiful *Arboricola ardens,* hitherto only known from the type specimen, and of the strange *Temnurus niger*, remarkable for its peculiarly shaped rectrices, as well as of seven other new forms, which he characterized as follows:—

PSITTIPARUS GULARIS HAINANUS, n. subsp.

The smallest form, otherwise nearest to *P. g. fokiensis*, with which it agrees in the large and deep black gular spot and the great amount of black on the forehead. From *P. gularis gularis* it differs in the darker colour of the back and more greyish ear-coverts and region under the eye, while from *P. g. transfluvialis*, which is almost as small, it can at once be distinguished by its pure white, not buff flanks. Wing 84–87 mm. (wing of *P. g. transfluvialis* 85–88, of *P. g. fokiensis* 97, *P. g. gularis* about 92 mm.).

Hab. Mt. Wuchi, Hainan. Type No. 98 A, Katsumata Coll. (8 specimens).

SERILOPHUS LUNATUS POLIONOTUS, n. subsp.

Differs from *S. l. rothschildi* in the black lores, browner crown and occiput, which is distinctly tinged with olive-brown, but not at all buffy brown as in *S. l. lunatus*, while the back is bluish ash-grey with no rufous tinge. The inner secondaries are deep buff, only slightly darker than in *S. l. lunatus*, but not chestnut as in *S. l. rothschildi*, while the upper tail-coverts are quite as dark as in the type of *S. l. rothschildi*. Rump as in *S. l. rothschildi*, but duller and tinged with olive.

Hab. Hainan, Mt. Wuchi. Type No. 176 A, Mt. Wuchi, 22.iii.1903. Katsumata Coll. (15 specimens).

The three forms of *S. lunatus* may be distinguished as follows:—

1. *S. lunatus lunatus* (Gould).—Whole head (except forehead) rusty buff; *lores buff*; inner secondaries very pale buff; whole back tinged with buff. Pegu and Tenasserim.

2. *S. lunatus rothschildi*, Hart. & Butl.—Forehead and crown grey, nape slightly tinged with brown; *lores pale grey*; back grey with a rufous tinge; inner secondaries chestnut-rufous. Gunong Ijau, Perak.

3. *S. lunatus polionotus*, Rothsch.—Forehead grey, crown and nape tinged with olive-brown; *lores black*; back grey; inner secondaries dark buff. Hainan.

Stachyris guttata swinhoei, n. subsp.

Similar to *S. guttata guttata* from Tenasserim, but smaller; crown and back less rufous, distinctly tinged with olive; upper tail-coverts and tail darker chestnut; outer aspect of wings, especially the inner secondaries, much deeper chestnut, less rufous; ear-coverts dark slate-colour with no rufous or olive tinge. Wing ♀ 64, ♂ 66–68 mm., bill 2–3 mm. shorter.

Hab. Mt. Wuchi, Hainan. Type ♂, 28.iii.1903, No. 187 A, Katsumata Coll. (6 specimens). Named in honour of the pioneer of Hainan and Formosan zoology.

Trochalopteron canorum owstoni, n. subsp.

A series of fifteen skins from Mt. Wuchi and Utoshi on the island of Hainan differ from a good series of *T. c. canorum* from the continent in having a paler, distinctly less yellowish, more olive upperside, thus somewhat pointing in the direction of *T. c. taivanum* from Formosa, and also in having somewhat duller and darker ear-coverts.

Type ♀, Mt. Wuchi, Hainan, 29.iii.1903, Katsumata Coll. Named after Mr. Alan Owston, the organizer of Mr. Katsumata's expedition.

Stachyridopsis ruficeps goodsoni, n. subsp.

Lores yellow; crown to the nape bright chestnut-red; rest of upper surface greyish olive-green; under surface pale yellow, sides washed with olive; throat bright yellow, with short sharply defined black shaft-stripes near the tip of the feathers. Wing 50–54 mm.

Hab. Hainan; type Mt. Wuchi, 24.iii.1903. Katsumata Coll.

12 specimens are before me. Named after Mr. Arthur Goodson, one of the assistants in the Tring Museum.

There are several races of *Stachyridopsis ruficeps*.

Stach. ruficeps ruficeps.—Crown rufous-cinnamon, with hair-like black shaft-lines; throat rusty buff, with black shaft-lines. Himalayas.

Stach. ruficeps rufifrons.—Very similar; crown slightly more reddish, somewhat duller; sides of head more ashy; throat lighter, more whitish. Lower hills of the Himalayas, Assam to Burma.

Stach. ruficeps præcognitus.—Strikingly different; crown deeper and more chestnut, without black shaft-lines. Formosa.

Stach. ruficeps goodsoni.—Differs from all the former in its still brighter uniform chestnut-red crown, more greenish back, and brighter yellow throat. Hainan.

POMATORHINUS TICKELLI HAINANUS, n. subsp.

Differs from *P. tickelli tickelli* in its smaller size, less rufous and more olive-brown upper surface and flanks, shorter and more blackish bill. Wing 97–101, tail 95–97, bill from base 35–41, metatarsus 37–38 mm. Colour of bill dark mouse-grey, not pale brownish as in *P. t. tickelli.*

Represents *P. t. tickelli* of Tenasserim in Hainan, whence I have received a series of 14 males and females collected at No-tai, Laimui-Mon, and Mt. Wuchi. (Type ♂, No. 90 A, No-tai, 30.ix.1902, Katsumata Coll.)

CISSA KATSUMATÆ, n. sp.

In general appearance like *C. chinensis,* but differs strikingly in the colour of the inner secondaries; these are reddish chestnut, almost blood-red, with wide greenish-blue (in fresh plumage probably quite green) tips, much wider and less pale than in *C. chinensis* and without even an indication of the black subterminal bars which are so conspicuous in *C. chinensis.* The tail is shorter. Wing 138, tail (apparently full-grown) 138, tarsus 46 mm.

This interesting new form will probably prove to be a subspecies of *Cissa chinensis,* but so far I have only a single female, No. 183 A, Mt. Wuchi, Hainan, 24.iii.1903, Katsumata Coll.

Named in honour of its discoverer.

Mr. Ernst Hartert exhibited and described some new species of birds, mostly discovered by Mr. Walter Goodfellow on Mt. Apo, a very high volcano in Southern Mindanao. The collection made by Mr. Goodfellow was only small, because his principal object during the ascent of Apo was to obtain specimens of living birds, but in the small collection there were some most remarkable new forms. A full account of the collection would be given elsewhere and it was hoped that more material from Mindanao would come to Tring shortly. The new forms were as follows:—

Trichoglossus johnstoniæ, n. sp.

Obs. This curious new Parrot resembles in its breast-markings the Celebesian *Psitteuteles meyeri* very closely, but the coloration of the head is more like that of *Ptilosclera versicolor*. It would connect the genera *Psitteuteles* and *Ptilosclera*, which are said to differ by their coloration only. I cannot see that they can be separated, nor can I see the possibility of separating *Trichoglossus* and *Psitteuteles* generically. In fact the "type" of the genus *Psitteuteles* is as typical a *Trichoglossus* as I can imagine, though *T. meyeri*, *T. flavoviridis*, and *T. chlorolepidotus* differ more by the coloration of the underside.

♂ ♀ *ad.* Forehead dark rosy red, in the male obscured by greenish tips to the feathers. Narrow loral line and broad line from the eyes backwards meeting (in the female indistinctly) on the nape dark brownish purple (not quite as dark as "prune-purple," Ridgway's pl. viii. fig. 1, Nomencl. Col.). Rest of crown and whole upper surface grass-green, the inner webs of the remiges and the first primary on both webs black, all, with the exception of the first three, with a large sulphur-yellow patch in the middle of the inner webs. Feathers round the mandible to the ear-coverts dark rose-red, those towards the ear-coverts with yellowish-green tips. Feathers of under surface dull sulphur-yellow, with grey bases and broad green tips; lower abdomen and under tail-coverts more greenish yellow, the green tips less distinct. Under wing-coverts yellowish green, those near the edge of the wing dark green and some of the longest ones pale yellow; tail from below greenish brownish-yellow. Wing 106–108, tail 71–74, bill from cere to tip ♂ 14·5, ♀ 12, metatarsus about 13 mm. "Bill yellowish red."

One pair, Mt. Apo, S. Mindanao, 8000 feet.

Type ♂ (No. 19, Goodfellow Coll.), April 1903.

This handsome Lory is named after Mrs. M. A. Johnstone, who is well known as an aviculturist and especially successful in breeding parrots in captivity.

Goodfellowia, gen. nov. *Sturnidarum.*

Bill like that of *Basileornis*; base of bill to the nostrils covered with erect feathers, those in front pointing forward, those further back upwards, their tips meeting above the ridge of the culmen. A curious long crest, consisting of decomposed, hair-like feathers, rises from the forehead and covers the middle of the crown. A ring round the eyes, and large patch behind the latter, bare of feathers. Tail very long, graduated, the lateral pair much less than half the length of the central one. Wing about two-thirds the length of the tail; first primary 20–22 mm., about one-fourth the length of the second, which is only a few millimetres shorter than the third, the latter about equal in length to the fourth and fifth and forming the tip of the wing. Feet strong. Coloration greenish steel-blue and black; rump white. Female like the male, but perhaps a little smaller.

Goodfellowia miranda, n. sp.

Exposed portion of bill chrome-yellow (in life), iris brown, bare patch on sides of head chrome-yellow. Body-plumage above and below black, with wide tips of a greenish steel-blue colour and greyish-white bases. Quills brownish black; outer portion of the inner secondaries brownish white, except near the tip. Under wing-coverts yellowish white, those near the edge black. Lower back and rump white. Feet brown (in skin). Wing 120–124, outer tail-feathers 68, central 170, exposed portion of bill 17, metatarsus 33 mm.

Hab. Mt. Apo, Mindanao, Philippines, 8000 feet.

The genus named in honour of its discoverer, Mr. Walter Goodfellow.

Type No. 57 (Goodfellow Coll.), April 1903.

Rhipidura nigrocinnamomea, n. sp.

♂ ♀ *ad.* Entire head to the hind-neck, sides of head, lores, and throat black, a white line across the forehead connecting two short white superciliary bands. Upper surface bright reddish cinnamon; tail similar, but slightly darker; quills black, outer and inner webs basally edged with cinnamon-rufous; inner secondaries cinnamon-rufous, with black tips; primary-coverts black, with cinnamon-rufous borders. Below: chest white, merging into the pale cinnamon breast and abdomen. Under wing- and tail-coverts pale cinnamon. Bill and feet (in skin) blackish. Wing 79–80, tail 90, metatarsus 19, bill from forehead about 15 mm.

Hab. Apo Volcano, Mindanao, 8000 feet.

Type ♂, April 1903, No. 137 (Goodfellow Coll.).

Cryptolopha mindanensis, n. sp.

Upper surface olive-green. Remiges blackish brown, outwardly edged with the colour of the back, inwardly with yellowish white. Middle rectrices dusky brown, edged with olive-green, outermost pair with the inner webs white, except a brown patch near the base; basal half of outer webs pale sulphur-yellow, distal half, except a line near the shaft, dusky brown; the next pair similar, but with a little more brown near the base, and the outer web throughout with dusky patches, the third pair from outside with an irregular white stripe near the shaft on the inner web and a narrow white border. A narrow brownish-buff superciliary line, not very conspicuous. Underside sulphur-yellow; fore-neck and breast tinged with olive-green. Under wing-coverts white, yellow near the edge of the wing; under tail-coverts yellow. Wing 59·5, tail 45, bill 10, tarsus about 18 mm. (not quite certain, because both damaged by shot).

Hab. Apo Volcano, 8000 feet, Mindanao, April 1903. (Type ♀, No. 142, Goodfellow Coll.)

HYPOCRYPTADIUS, gen. nov. *Zosteropidarum.*

Bill rather higher and comparatively short, the culmen distinctly curved; nasal groove less than one-third of the length of the exposed portion of the culmen; culminal ridge more rounded. Wing as in *Zosterops* (*i. e.* "nine-primaried"), the first (developed) primary only 5 mm. shorter than the next and at least 1½ cm. longer than the secondaries. Larger than *Zosterops,* coloration different from all *Zosteropidæ.* Sexes alike. Feet very strong, but structurally similar to those of *Zosterops.*

HYPOCRYPTADIUS CINNAMOMEUS, n. sp.

♂ ♀. Bill and feet (in skin) slaty blackish. Upperside uniform cinnamon, distal half of tail darker, more brown; inner webs of remiges blackish brown, basal portion only cinnamon; primary-coverts slaty brown. Underside buff; breast tinged with cinnamon, lower abdomen and under tail-coverts paler and with a greyish tinge. Wing 92, tail 58, bill (from end of feathering) 14, metatarsus 21 mm.

Hab. Mt. Apo, 8000 feet, Mindanao. (Types ♂ ♀, No. 121, Goodfellow Coll.)

ZOSTEROPS GOODFELLOWI, n. sp.

♀. Above olive-green, crown and ear-coverts tinged with brown. Remiges deep brown, with greenish outer edges and pale sulphur-yellow inner margins; tail brown with olive-green outer webs. Underside sulphur-yellow, chin and upper throat pale buff, fore-neck and sides of breast and abdomen strongly tinged with olive-greenish. No indication of a white orbital ring! Wing 71–75, tail 58, bill from feathers 12·5, tarsus 21 mm.

Hab. Apo Volcano, Mindanao, 8000 feet. Type ♀ (Goodfellow Coll. No. 124 A), April 1903.

ZOSTEROPS WHITEHEADI, n. sp.

Obs. In the collection made by the late John Whitehead in the Lepanto district, North Luzon, is a pair of *Zosterops* labelled *Z. meyeni* which somewhat resemble the true *Z. meyeni* from Manilla, Calaman, and the neighbourhood, but differ conspicuously in being darker above and not so yellow, especially on the crown and forehead, in having darker and more greenish-olive ear-coverts, all the feathers of the upperside having much darker grey bases, more greenish flanks, and a black loral patch which is not developed in *Z. meyeni*. These birds are named in honour of the late John Whitehead, who so successfully explored the Highlands of Luzon. Wing ♂ ♀ 52–53·5, tail 36, bill 9 mm.

Hab. Lepanto, Luzon, 5000 feet high, January 14, 1894. (Type ♂ ad., No. 819, Whitehead Coll.)

ZOSTEROPS WHITEHEADI VULCANI, n. subsp.

Entirely like *Z. w. whiteheadi* but larger and with a dusky shade under the eye. Wing 58·8, tail 40, bill 10·5 mm.

Hab. Mt. Apo, Mindanao, 8000 feet, April 1903. (Type ♀, Goodfellow Coll.)

Obs. Evidently representing *Z. w. whiteheadi* on Mt. Apo, but probably older forms will also come as subspecies into this group, so that its name, *i. e.* that of the species, may have to be altered eventually.

Mr. OSCAR NEUMANN made some remarks on *Gallirex johnstoni*, Sharpe, from the Ruwenzori Mts., and pointed out that this bird was not a true *Gallirex* but the type of a new genus, which he proposed to call

RUWENZORORNIS, n. gen.

This genus was intermediate in many respects between *Musophaga* and *Gallirex*, having the area between the bill and the eye and below the latter bare, but having the region above the eye feathered. This bare space was about intermediate in extent between that of *M. violacea* and *M. rossæ*. The bill was high, with the culmen rounded, starting from above the eyes, very much compressed and showing a distinct ridge, far more pronounced than in any genus of *Musophagidæ*, not excepting *Corythæola*. The nostrils in *Ruwenzorornis* were not rounded as in *Gallirex*, but were longitudinal, as in *Musophaga*.

These striking characteristics of the bill were not indicated in the plate drawn by Mr. Keulemans (Ibis, 1902, pl. v.), where he figured a bird with the bill of an ordinary *Gallirex*; but it must be said that the typical specimen, collected by Sir Harry Johnston, was a female, and thus the characters of the bill were not so prominent as in the adult males. This was doubtless the reason also that led Dr. Sharpe to place the bird in the genus *Gallirex*. The fine series collected by Mr. F. J. Jackson had enabled Mr. Neumann to discover the characters of the genus. It was likewise interesting to find the colouring of *Ruwenzorornis johnstoni* in every respect intermediate between *Musophaga rossæ* and *Gallirex porphyreolophus*.

Mr. Neumann also exhibited specimens of the following new subspecies of African birds:—

Crateropus smithi lacuum, n. subsp.

Similar to *Crateropus smithi smithi*, but differing in wanting the white eyebrow, and in having the chin and upper throat, as well as the lores, dark ashy grey, instead of white. The rump and abdominal region not so pure white as in typical *C. smithi*.

Hab. The Lake Valley south of Shoa, from Lake Zuaï to Lake Gandjule, and the mountain-slopes east of that valley.

Type. Alelu, north of Lake Abassi, Dec. 9, 1900 (*coll. O. Neumann*).

Crateropus smithi omoensis, n. subsp.

Similar to the foregoing, but having the grey of the lores, chin, and upper throat replaced by black. Rump and abdominal region still darker and of a pale buff tint.

Hab. The countries of the Omo System—Uba, Gofa, Doko, Malo, and Kaffa, and also the head-waters of the Gelo River (Binescho and Schecho).

Type ♂ ad., Senti River (southern affluent to the Omo), between Uba and Gofa, 30.i.1901 (*coll. O. Neumann*).

Lybius undatus gardullensis, n. subsp.

Similar to *Lybius undatus undatus*, but the black bars on the under surface of the body narrower and less distinct, the abdomen strongly washed with sulphur-yellow, while in the true *L. undatus* there were very distinct black bars, as broad as the white space between them, and the abdomen is only slightly washed with yellow.

Hab. South Ethiopia (Lake Chain and Omo System).

Type ♀ ad., Gardulla, west of Lake Gandjule, 15.i.1901 (*coll. O. Neumann*).

Lybius undatus salvadorii, n. subsp.

Similar to *Lybius undatus undatus*, but with the under surface not barred, but having broad black spots; abdomen strongly washed with sulphur-yellow.

Hab. Harar Mountains.

Type ♀ ad., Dinki, near Harar (Ragazzi Coll., Mus. Turin). Other specimens from Dinki are in the Turin Museum, as well as in the British Museum, which also possesses a young bird from Bellawa near Harar.

In Mr. Neumann's opinion, these forms, as well as *L. leucogenys*, Grant, and *L. thiogaster*, Neum., were mere subspecies of *L. undatus*, and all were geographical races of the same form with separate distributions. Thus *L. thiogaster* inhabited Bogos Land and N. Abyssinia, *L. undatus* Godjam and Shoa, *L. leucogenys* the western slopes of the Abyssinian plateau, *L. gardullensis* Southern Ethiopia to the south of the Hawash, and *L. salvadorii* the Harar Mountains.

On the other hand, *L tsanæ*, Grant, was considered by Mr. Neumann to be a good species, which was on first sight nearly allied to *L. undatus*, but was really quite a distinct form, as it occurred together with *L. undatus* and *L. gardullensis*.

Mr. W. Ruskin Butterfield exhibited a female specimen of the Orphean Warbler (*Sylvia orpheus*, Temm.) which had been shot by Mr. A. Kite on Filsham Farm close to St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex, on Oct. 7th, 1903. The specimen was brought to Mr. George Bristow of that place and examined in the flesh by Mr. Butterfield.

In the 4th edition of Yarrell's 'British Birds' two reputed occurrences of this species in England were mentioned, but in neither case was the evidence beyond question. It was therefore satisfactory that at length an authenticated specimen had been produced.

Mr. Ruskin Butterfield also mentioned that a pair of Peregrine Falcons had nested and brought off their young during the present year in the cliffs at Fairlight near Hastings. Several local ornithologists had interested themselves in the matter, and it was hoped that protection would be afforded to the parent birds if they again selected the locality for nesting purposes.

Lieut. Boyd Alexander exhibited an adult female specimen of *Glareola melanoptera* obtained in Rye Harbour on the 18th of June, 1903. This was the first record of the species in Sussex. The bird was shot by a man named Ransom, and was brought to Mr. Bristow at St. Leonards, where it was seen in the flesh by Mr. Ruskin Butterfield. Another example, an adult male, was shot on Romney Marsh on the 17th of June by a man named Jones, and was now in the collection of Mr. Fleetwood Ashburnham at Broomham Park, Hastings. The last-named specimen was additional to the one recorded in the 'Bulletin' (vol. xiii. p. 78).

Lieut. Alexander also described a new Flycatcher from Fernando Po as

Alseonax poensis, n. sp.

Alseonax obscura (nec Sjostedt), Alex. Ibis, 1903, p. 383.

Ad. Allied to *A. obscura*, but with the upper parts entirely slaty greyish, with indistinct brownish centres to the feathers of the crown; base of forehead, lores, and eye-ring pale buff, spot in front of the eye black. Underparts pale buff, strongly washed on the breast and sides of the body with slaty greyish; axillaries and under wing-coverts uniform rufous buff. Total length 4·3 inches, culmen 0·4, wing 2·51, tail 1·63, tarsus 0·55.

Hab. Bakaki and Moka, Fernando Po.

This appeared to be an intermediate form between *Alseonax* *comitata* (Cass.) and its allies from the forest district of the Gold Coast and Gaboon, and *A. murina*, F. & R., from the Mountains of Equatorial Africa.

Mr. M. J. Nicoll exhibited a specimen of the Great Sedge-Warbler (*Acrocephalus turdoides*) shot by himself close to St. Leonards on the 25th of September, 1900. This was the first record for Sussex, and the fifth authentic occurrence of the species in Great Britain. He also exhibited two Tawny Pipits (*Anthus campestris*) which he had obtained at Rye Harbour on the 22nd of September.

Mr. Nicoll gave a short account of his experiences on board the Earl of Crawford's Yacht 'Valhalla,' to which expedition he had been attached as Naturalist. Among the interesting specimens shown to the Meeting were examples of *Tatare vaughani*, Sharpe, from Pitcairn Island, of which both old and young birds were obtained; *Vireo gracilirostris*, Sharpe, and *Elainæa ridleyana*, Sharpe, from Fernando Noronha; and a very pale individual of *Stercorarius crepidatus* from the Bay of Valparaiso, this being the first record from the Pacific coast of South America.

Colonel Rippon described a new species of Tit from Western Yun-nan:—

ÆGITHALISCUS TALIFUENSIS, n. sp.

Similis *A. manipurensi* et *A. concinnæ*, pileo pallide rufo, sed torque præpectorali angusto et corporis lateribus valde saturatius castaneis distinguendus. Long. tot. 4·5 poll., culm. 0·35, alæ 2·1, caudæ 2·1, tarsi 0·65.

Hab. Gyi-dzin-Shan, east of Talifu, W. Yun-nan.

Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant sent the description of an apparently new species of Oriole:—

ORIOLUS PERCIVALI, n. sp.

♂. Similis *O. larvato* et *O. rolleti*, sed rectricibus medianis nigris, et externis graduatim basin versus nigris distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 9·0 poll., culm. 1·05, alæ 5·5, caudæ 3·65, tarsi 1·05.

Hab. Kikuyu, Aug. 29, 1902 (*A. Blayney Percival*).

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe described four new species of birds from the Camaroons, as follows :—

Bathmocercus fuscipennis, n. sp.

♂. Similis *B. rufo* et *B. jacksoni*, sed rectricibus externis omnino fusco-brunneis, alis fusco-brunneis, plumis singulis rufo vix fimbriatis et remigibus intus minime rufo marginatis distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 5·0 poll., culm. 0·65, alæ 2·0, caudæ 1·8, tarsi 1·0.

Hab. Efulen, Dec. 15, 1902 (*G. L. Bates*).

Bleda batesi, n. sp.

Similis *B. indicatoridi*, sed rectricibns tribus externis albis, minime fusco maculatim terminatis distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 7·8 poll., culm. 0·75, alæ 3·9, caudæ 2·9, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Efulen (*G. L. Bates*).

Stiphornis xanthogaster, n. sp.

Ad. et juv. Similis *S. gabonensi*, Sharpe, sed abdomine flavescente distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·8 poll., culm. 0·65, alæ 2·6, caudæ 1·45, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. River Ja, Feb. 1903 (*G. L. Bates*).

Scoptelus brunneiceps, n. sp.

Similis *S. castaneicipiti*, sed minor, et capite gulaque umbrinis distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 9·0 poll., culm. 1·0, alæ 3·6, caudæ 4·5, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Efulen, March 5, 1902 (*G. L. Bates*).

Dr. Sharpe also described a new species of Ouzel from Ruwenzori as

Merula baraka, n. sp.

♀. Similis *M. elgonensi*, sed saturatior, gutture et præpectore griseis clare olivaceo adumbratis, et corpore reliquo subtus saturate cinnamomeo fere castaneo distinguenda. Long. tot. 8·8 poll., culm. 0·9, alæ 4·7, caudæ 3·45, tarsi 1·35.

Hab. Ruwenzori, Feb. 23, 1902 (*F. J. Jackson Coll.*).

Mr. J. I. S. Whitaker drew attention to the differences between *Cisticola cisticola* and specimens from Algeria and

Tunis. In his opinion these latter birds constituted a recognizable race, for which he proposed the name of

CISTICOLA CISTICOLA MAURITANICA, n. subsp.

♂. Similis *C. cisticolæ*, sed major, obscurior, brunnescentior, uropygio brunnescentiori-rufo, et hypochondriis rufescenti-brunneis, nec læte cervinis, rostro quoque saturatiore brunneo, distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 4·4 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·1, caudæ 1·65, tarsi 0·8. (Spec. typ. ex Batna, Algeria, Nov. 5, 1902.)

♀ mari similis, vix minor. Long. tot. 4·2 poll., alæ 2·05. (El-Kef, Tunisia, Nov. 11, 1902.)

Dr. SCLATER, on behalf of Capt. Stanley Flower, exhibited a photograph (taken in September last) of one of the three specimens of the Shoe-bill (*Balæniceps rex*) received from the White Nile in 1902 by the Zoological Gardens at Gizeh (*cf.* Bull. B. O. C. xiii. p. 67). All three birds were stated to be still alive and well there.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 18th of November, 1903, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, *Chairman.*	R. BOWDLER SHARPE, *Editor.*	W. E. DE WINTON, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CI.

THE hundredth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of November, 1903.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present :—BOYD ALEXANDER, E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, B. A. BRISTOWE, W. E. DE WINTON (*Treasurer*), H. E. DRESSER, H. GOODCHILD, F. H. CARRUTHERS GOULD, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, G. E. LODGE, J. McL. MARSHALL, E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, H. C. MONRO, M. J. NICOLL, T. PARKIN, H. J. PEARSON, F. G. PENROSE, M.D., A. D. SAPSWORTH, HOWARD SAUNDERS, D. SETH-SMITH, W. B. TEGETMEIER, C. B. TICEHURST, N. F. TICEHURST, S. J. WHITE, H. F. WITHERBY.

Guests: E. NEIL BAYNES, C. V. BULSTRODE, E. W. HARPER, Commander C. E. MONRO, R.N.

Before commencing the ordinary proceedings the Chairman called attention to the fact that an erroneous report of one of the exhibitions at the last Meeting had appeared in one of the daily papers, and stated that the Committee of the B. O. C. trusted that there would be no recurrence of this objectionable practice, as it was quite understood that the meetings of the B. O. C. were private, and that no report of the proceedings should be published until after the authorized account had been issued in the 'Bulletin.'

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited, on behalf of Lord Boston, a pretty variety of the Blue Tit (*Parus cæruleus*), the under parts and most of the upper parts being primrose-yellow, with the normal pattern fairly defined on the head and more faintly on the wings. The bird had been seen on Lord Boston's estate at Sligny, Anglesey, since November 1901, and was very tame; it was shot last October. The bird had dark eyes.

Mr. H. J. Pearson exhibited some young in down of the Bar-tailed Godwit, obtained by Mr. Chaworth Musters and himself during their recent visit to Russian Lapland. The young birds appeared to have been hatched about twelve hours, and the old birds were stated to have behaved at the nest in a similar manner to the Black-tailed Godwit. Mr. Pearson stated that birds generally were less numerous in the country this year than usual; also that Mr. Musters obtained three male specimens of Eversmann's Warbler (*Phylloscopus borealis*) between June 26th and July 5th.

Mr. Seth-Smith gave the following account of the nesting of *Crypturus tataupa* :—

A pair of this Tinamou has just bred in my aviary. The nest was made in the corner of a shed, and composed of hay, straw, leaves, and feathers. Three eggs were deposited in the nest, but two others had been laid some few weeks previously in the grass. Incubation was performed by the smaller bird, which appears to be the male, and lasted twenty-one days, all three eggs hatching on the 27th of October. Two of the young remained in the nest until the 29th, the third was found dead outside the nest on the 28th, having evidently left too soon and perished from exposure.

The male took charge of the young birds and drove off the female if she approached, but he did not seem to take very much interest in his offspring, running from them if in any way alarmed.

The young ate small earthworms, gentles, and seed, but evidently required other food, such as live ants' cocoons and minute insects, which, at this time of the year, it was impossible to obtain. They progressed very well until a week old, when one was found dead, but the other lived for a fortnight.

The three chicks which I exhibit here to-night are in three interesting stages—the first just hatched, the second seven days old with the quill-feathers commencing to develop, and the third with practically full wings, 14 days old.

The egg of this species is a beautiful object, of a bright pinkish chocolate, and oval in shape.

Mr. N. F. Ticehurst exhibited, on behalf of Mr. Walter Field, of Ore, near Hastings, a nest and three eggs of the Marsh-Warbler (*Acrocephalus palustris*). The nest was situated in a low bush near a stream on a farm abutting on the marshes at Pett Level, Sussex, and contained four fresh eggs, one of which had been broken. It was found on July 2nd, 1903.

Mr. E. W. Harper sent for exhibition three living examples of the Large-billed Weaver-bird (*Ploceus megarhynchus*) and remarked :—

"The birds were obtained by me in July at Bareilly, N.W. India, having been captured close by in the Kumaon District. In his 'Fauna of British India,' Mr. Oates makes this species synonymous with *P. atrigula*, but it may easily be distinguished from the latter by its larger size and entirely yellow under surface. Mr. Hume's types in the British Museum are either females, or males in undress (*i. e.* winter) plumage. The third and fourth specimens recorded were obtained by Mr. F. Finn in the Calcutta Bazaar and came from N.W. India.

"These birds were figured in 'The Ibis,' and one of them is still living in the Parrot-house at the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park.

"Last summer I brought to England a fifth example of this species, a male in full summer plumage. The Indian menagerie on view at Earl's Court Exhibition last year contained 9 or 10 of these birds, including examples of both sexes, and I called attention to them in a letter to 'The Field.' At the close of the exhibition they were all disposed of, and some fetched high prices.

"Two of my birds have just assumed winter plumage, and the third has commenced to do so."

Mr. F. Finn exhibited the skin of a fledgling specimen of *Mesia argentauris*, bred this summer in the aviary of Mr. R. Phillipps, who presented the skin to the British Museum Collection. Only six examples of this species were known to have been brought to England, and all were still living. Mr. Phillipps's young bird, although weakly, was remarkable in having precociously exhibited the black cap of maturity, although in the rest of its plumage it was so dull that it rather resembled a male Blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*), the characteristic bright yellow and red tints of the adult birds being almost entirely absent.

Mr. W. B. Tegetmeier exhibited some drawings of Pheasants reproduced by the new process of printing in three colours, which he considered better and cheaper than any hand-coloured plate. The colouring was much admired by the members.

Dr. Sclater exhibited a skin of a South-African Bustard (*Otis barrovii*) and read the following extract from a letter of his friend Capt. R. Crawshay, F.Z.S., dated Piet Retief, Transvaal Colony (2.9.03) :—"Our best game hereabouts is the Cinnamon-coloured Lesser Bustard, the most sporting and cunning bird I have ever shot. But for its pursuit I doubt if I could have maintained health and mental energy in this district. As a memento of the veldt I am sending you a skin of it and wish to know the name of the species."

Dr. Sclater said there could be no doubt that the bird in question was an example of *Otis barrovii*, the southern representative of *O. senegalensis*, under which name it had stood in Sharpe and Layard's 'Birds of South Africa' (p. 639); but, as had been subsequently shown by Dr. Sharpe (Cat. B. xxiii. p. 311), it was clearly a distinct species.

The present specimen was an adult male, shot by Capt. Crawshay on October 13th, 1903, on the veldt near Piet Retief. It was labelled "Weight 2 lbs. 3 oz. : eye, pupil large and black ; iris light brown, graduating into grey on the outer edge. Frequents bare undulating grassland, where there is no timber nor undergrowth."

Dr. Sclater took the opportunity of making a few remarks on the geographical range of the Bustards (Otidæ), which were a well-marked family of "birds of the plains," and afforded an excellent example of a "Paleogæan" group represented in the Palæarctic, Ethiopian, Oriental, and Australian Regions, but absent in Neogæa.

Mr. Robert Read exhibited nests and eggs of the Tree-Sparrow (*Passer montanus*), which he had found very plentiful near Royston, in Cambridgeshire. They were remarkable for the fact that each clutch contained one light-coloured egg.

Mr. Howard Saunders read a report from Dr. J. H. Salter on the efforts made to protect the breeding-places of the Kite during the last season ; and, as Treasurer of the Fund subscribed by the B. O. C., Mr. Saunders stated that he had enough money in hand for next year, without asking for the subscriptions promised. Further aid was volunteered, in case of need.

Errata.—In the 'Bulletin' for June 17th of this year (No. xcix. p. 79) the Goldfinch showing an abnormal amount of red, exhibited by Mr. Finn, was, by some error, alluded to as an Irish specimen ; it really was, as stated at the time, an example of the large "Siberian" race.

Mr. M. J. Nicoll sent the following corrections to the account of his remarks in the last number of the 'Bulletin.' The date of capture of the Great Reed-Warbler (*Acrocephalus turdoides*) should have been Sept. 25, 1903, *not* 1900 ; and *four* instead of *two* Tawny Pipits (*Anthus campestris*) were obtained on Sept. 22 and 24, 1903.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 16th of December, 1903, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M. Members intending to dine are requested on *this* occasion to inform Mr. Howard Saunders.

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, *Chairman.*	W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, *Acting-Editor.*	W. E. DE WINTON, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CII.

The hundred and first Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of December, 1903.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, B. A. Bristowe, R. A. Crowley, H. E. Dresser, F. D. Drewitt, M.D., A. H. Evans, F. Finn, F. W. Frohawk, H. Goodchild, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, G. S. Hett, G. E. Lodge, J. McL. Marshall, H. Munt, E. Neale, R. Nesham, C. E. Pearson, H. J. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, M.D., T. Digby Pigott, C.B., Major F. W. Proctor, F. R. Ratcliffe, R. H. Read, Howard Saunders, F. C. Selous, D. Seth-Smith, E. Cavendish Taylor, W. B. Tegetmeier, L. A. Williams, Scott B. Wilson, H. F. Witherby.

Guests: J. M. Barton, F. G. Cannon, C. E. Fagan, Lieut. H. Leynes, R.N., D. G. Mouncey, Colonel Sunderland.

The Chairman read a letter that he had received from Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, dated Funchal, Madeira, Dec. 4th, 1903. Dr. Sharpe sent warm greetings to the assembled members, and stated that the S.Y. 'Emerald' (in which, by the kindness of friends, he was taking a winter tour) had been storm-bound at Funchal for a week, but would start next day for St. Thomas and Trinidad. He had made several

[*December 29th*, 1903.]

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excursions into the interior of Madeira, and had found both the Wild Canary and the Madeiran Chaffinch very common. He had also procured examples of the native Robin and Fire-crested Wren.

Dr. Sclater also read a letter from Mr. Philip W. Munn, who regretted that he was unable to attend the meeting of the Club on the present occasion. Mr. Munn wished it to be known that he had in preparation a work on the birds of Hampshire including the Isle of Wight, and would be glad to receive communications on the occurrence of rare birds and notes on their nesting in the County, from any Members of the Union or other persons who might be inclined to assist him.

Mr. Harry F. Witherby exhibited some rare birds from Somaliland. A small collection, which was remarkable for the large proportion of rarities it contained, had been sent to him by Lieut. A. E. Hamerton, R.A.M.C., who was a member of the British Field Force at present engaged in that country. Mr. Hamerton had made another and larger collection which had, unfortunately, been lost while the force was crossing the waterless Haud. Most of the birds received had been collected in the district around Galkayu, situated about 6° 50′ North latitude, 47° 30′ East longitude, some 120 miles north-west of Obbia, and near the boundary between Italian and British Somaliland.

Mr. Witherby exhibited specimens of the following:—

Mirafra gilletti, Sharpe, ♂. Bera near Galkayu.

Mirafra collaris, Sharpe, ♂. Dibbit near Galkayu. This specimen was rather paler than the single example obtained by Dr. Donaldson Smith and preserved in the British Museum.

Aëdon galactodes, ♂. Bera. A single specimen remarkable for its small size: wing 720 mm., culmen 170 mm.

Pholidauges bicolor (Reich.), ♂ ♀. Bera.

Serinus donaldsoni, Sharpe. Galkayu.

Passer castanopterus, Blyth, ♂. Bera.

Caprimulgus torridus, Lort Phil., ♂. Dibbit.

Campothera nubica (Gm.), ♂ ♀. Bera, which were remarkable for their small size and pale coloration.

Mr. Witherby also exhibited a specimen of an apparently undescribed species of Lark, which he characterized as follows :—

Certhilauda somalica, n. sp.

The long and perfectly straight hind claw and the long bastard primary, together with the character of the bill, indicates that this bird belongs to the genus *Certhilauda*. In size it is intermediate between *C. rufula* (V.) and *C. capensis* (Bodd.) ; the bill is also intermediate in length, but it is slightly stouter than in either of them. The upper parts of the bird are of a pale pinkish chestnut, the feathers being margined with dirty white and tipped with black on the upper wing- and tail-coverts. The breast and chin are buffish white ; the upper breast and throat the same streaked with reddish brown ; the flanks pinkish ; the abdomen white ; the under tail-coverts white with broad dark brown mesial stripes ; the under wing-coverts pale pink. The primaries are brown, broadly margined with chestnut ; the secondaries dusky reddish brown, margined narrowly with buffish white. The tail in length and general coloration is most like that of *Certhilauda capensis*, but the outer webs of the outer pair of feathers are white, and in the next pair the webs are margined with white ; the central pair are broadly margined with pale rust-colour and tipped with white.

Wing 95 mm., culmen 25 mm., tarsus 34 mm., hind claw 14 mm.

♂. Dibbit, Somaliland (about 6° 50′ North latitude, 47° 30′ East longitude). March 11, 1903. A. E. Hamerton (collector).

Captain G. E. Shelley sent the following notes on the nomenclature of certain *Fringillidæ* :—

"The new genus *Neospiza* (cf. Salvad. Acc. R. Sc. Torino, 1903, p. 26) for the reception of *Amblyospiza concolor*, Bocage, appears to me to be unnecessary, as the bird in my opinion belongs to the genus *Linurgus*, and should be inserted in my key to that genus (B. Africa, iii. p. 172) under the following section :—

"*a*. Plumage nearly uniform tawny brown, darker above than below."
  a'. Larger, wing more than 4·0 inches .... *concolor*.
  b'. Smaller, wing less than 3·5 inches.
    a^2. Of a more rufous shade, &c., &c.

"The type of *Crithagra imberbis*, Cab., lately rediscovered in the Berlin Museum, proves to belong to my genus *Anomalospiza*, one of the *Viduinæ*. We have therefore two distinct species—*Anomalospiza imberbis* (Cab.), and *Serinus imberbis*, Sharpe, the type of the latter being a specimen from Tete on the Zambesi. This necessitates the following corrections in my B. Afr. iii. p. 203 :—Delete '*Crithagra imberbis*, Cab.' and the references to it, and also '*Crithagra chloropsis*.'

"Mr. Neumann has recently informed me that his *Serinus sharpii* is quite distinct from *S. imberbis*, Sharpe, and represents *S. flaviventris* in E. Africa. I am sorry to have to add that he has, however, renamed *S. imberbis*, Sharpe, as *S. shelleyi*, overlooking the fact that *Serinus imberbis*, Sharpe, is generically distinct from *Crithagra imberbis*, Cab.

"Hartlaub has given the same specific name to two species of the genus *Hypargus*: *Estrelda nitidula*, Ibis, 1865, p. 269, and *Lagonosticta nitidula*, Bull. Mus. R. Nat. Belg. 1886, p. 145, pl. 4. figs. 1, 2. I was first made aware of this fact by Mr. Hartert showing me an adult male of the latter species, now in the Tring Museum, and obtained by Mr. C. H. Pemberton at Sagua on the Quanza River. I propose to rename this bird *Hypargus harterti*, after Mr. Ernst Hartert as an acknowledgment of the good service he has rendered to ornithology."

Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant described a new species of Francolin obtained by Col. Delmé Radcliffe in Uganda.

Francolinus mulemæ, n. sp.

Adult male and female. Most nearly allied to *F. levaillanti* (Valenc.) and *F. kikuyuensis*, Grant. It resembles the former in the colour and markings of the head and neck, the chin and middle of the throat being pure white, but, as in *F. kikuyuensis*, the mottled black and white stripes surrounding the crown are interrupted on the nape by the chestnut collar and not continued down the back of the neck in a nuchal band, and the chestnut white-shafted feathers are confined to the chest, the breast and belly being buff, more or less blotched, especially on the sides of the body, with blackish chestnut. *F. kikuyuensis* always has the entire chin and throat suffused with buff.

Total length 13·0 inches, wing 6·2, tail 2·7, tarsus 2·1, bare portion of culmen 1·2.

Hab. Mulema, Uganda, 5000 ft., April 1903 (*W. L. Doggett*).

Mr. GRANT also reported that two examples of the Waxwing (*Ampelis garrulus*) had been caught at Ramsgate in the beginning of December, by a Mr. Young. One of the birds having died, was forwarded on 8th December to the Natural History Museum.

Dr. SCLATER exhibited a pair of a scarce and beautiful Tanager, *Cyanicterus venustus* (*cf.* Scl. Cat. B. B. M. xi. p. 193), belonging to the Museum of the University of Cambridge, and sent to him, along with other South-American birds, for determination.

These skins had been obtained by the late C. A. Lister, B.A., of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, at Casuaria Grande, near Manaos, at the junction of the Rio Negro with the Amazon, in June 1889, and had been bequeathed by him on his death, along with other objects, to the University.

The male was labelled "Iris orange; upper mandible black:" the female "iris crimson; eyelid yellow: from a tall tree in the forest."

Dr. Sclater remarked that the locality of these specimens was of much interest, as the species had been heretofore only known to occur in the interior of Guiana and Cayenne.

Mr. H. J. PEARSON exhibited examples of the Spotted or Dusky Redshank (*Totanus fuscus*) and Wood Sandpiper

(*T. glareola*) with their young in down, obtained during his recent visit to Russian Lapland.

Mr. T. Digby Pigott stated to the Meeting that he believed the reported appearance at Sheringham, Norfolk, of a couple of Great Black Woodpeckers (*Picus martius*) in the summer of 1903 to be well-authenticated.

Two, probably the same, had been reported to him as having been seen at Westwick, a neighbouring property, shortly before the appearance of the birds at Sheringham.

He stated that, on the publication of the letter to 'The Times' recording the appearance of the birds at Sheringham, he had received letters stating that the Great Black Woodpecker had also been seen this year in Sussex and in Worcestershire.

He had been assured by General the Hon. Sir Percy Fielding that in 1851, when hunting in Warwickshire, he had, in company with several others, while a covert was being drawn, seen and watched for some time a Great Black Woodpecker, which had lit on a tree at the edge of the covert and remained for some time in full view.

Mr. Digby Pigott, on behalf of Mr. Dorrien Smith, also reported the capture at the end of September (or early in October) 1903 of an American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*). The bird, which had been caught in a bramble-bush on Bryher, Scilly Islands, was at the time it was taken in a starved condition and very thin. It had been fed on eels and other fish, and was now living in the aviary at Tresco and in excellent condition. It was very tame, and would take fish from a feeder's hand.

Mr. H. E. Dresser made remarks on the supposed breeding of the Knot (*Tringa canutus*) in the Tamyir Peninsula. He stated that the birds and their eggs had been sent for examination to the St. Petersburg Museum, and were there considered authentic.

Mr. F. G. Cannon exhibited a clutch of Sparrow-Hawk's eggs taken in Somersetshire. The nest was placed in an unusual position, being built immediately above a squirrel's drey containing one young squirrel.

Mr. W. B. Tegetmeier exhibited specimens of the Prince of Wales' Pheasant (*Phasianus principalis*), and made remarks on the introduction of this species into Hants and Sussex, where the birds had been shot. Colonel Sunderland, who had imported many of these birds from Central Asia at considerable expense, was present as a visitor to the Club, and stated that the Pheasants he had turned down had thriven well and bred freely, and he believed that they would prove a valuable addition to the game-birds reared in this country.

Mr. F. Finn exhibited a photograph of a specimen of the Indian Dabchick (*Podicipes capensis*) taken from life. The bird was standing in an erect position. He also made some remarks, pointing out that, according to his experience, this and other Grebes were able to walk normally, for in addition to *Podicipes capensis* he had observed specimens of *Podicipes cristatus, P. nigricollis, P. minor,* and *Æchmophorus major* do the same.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 20th of January, 1904, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M. Members intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Ogilvie-Grant.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are particularly requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater, *Chairman.*	W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, *Acting-Editor.*	Howard Saunders, *Acting-Secretary.*

BULLETIN
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CIII.

The hundred and second Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of January, 1904.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, F. D. Drewitt, F. Finn, F. W. Frohawk, J. Gerrard, H. Goodchild, F. H. Carruthers Gould, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, E. Hartert, G. E. Lodge, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, H. J. Pearson, H. Leyborne Popham, Major F. W. Proctor, W. P. Pycraft, F. R. Ratcliff, R. H. Read, W. E. Renaut, W. Rothschild, A. D. Sapsworth, Howard Saunders, W. Radcliffe Saunders, F. C. Selous, D. Seth-Smith, J. Stares, E. Cavendish Taylor, W. B. Tegetmeier, H. M. Wallis, Watkin Watkins, H. F. Witherby.

Guests: J. H. P. Berthon, Charles Collier, Lieut. H. Leynes (R.N.), W. N. Murray.

The Chairman announced, with much regret, the death of Mr. Walter Doggett. This well-known naturalist, attached to the Anglo-German Boundary Commission under Major Delmé Radcliffe, had lost his life by the accidental upsetting of a canoe on the River Kagera, in the Uganda Protectorate. Mr. Doggett had previously been two years in Uganda as taxidermist and photographer on the staff of Sir Harry Johnston, by whom he was much esteemed.

[*January 26th*, 1904.] VOL. XIV.

AUG 26 1904
National Museum

The Hon. Walter Rothschild exhibited two pheasants killed in the United States, together with a series of Asiatic pheasants, and made the following remarks about them:—

"The two pheasants killed in the United States are exhibited to illustrate the only two varieties of Pheasant acclimatized there. Some weeks ago Mr. Tegetmeier, when alluding to my introduction of *Phasianus mongolicus* into England, said that it had also been introduced into America. I wrote and explained that the Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus torquatus*) was there called Mongolian Pheasant and that the true *P. mongolicus* had not yet been introduced into the United States. Mr. Tegetmeier being still unconvinced, I sent to the United States for specimens as well as for further information. As I am assured the two birds I exhibit to-night, viz. an English Mongrel Pheasant and a Ring-necked *Phasianus torquatus*, are the only two varieties of Pheasant which have been introduced and turned down in the United States, my statement is fully confirmed. This discussion leads up to another question, namely, the validity of the various so-called species of the genus *Phasianus*. Some ornithologists consider them all as excellent species, whilst others, chiefly because among our half-tame English Pheasants birds crop up occasionally almost identical with some of the wild races other than *P. colchicus* and *P. torquatus*, consider them all as freaks or aberrations. As usual, the truth lies halfway between, and I have brought up a series of specimens to illustrate my remarks. Mr. Grant has enumerated the following 23 species and subspecies of *Phasianus* in vol. xxii. of the 'Catalogue of Birds':—

Phasianus colchicus.
—— ——, subsp. talischensis.
—— persicus.
—— principalis.
—— zerafshanicus.
—— shawi.
—— tarimensis.
—— chrysomelas.
—— mongolicus.
—— ——, subsp. semitorquatus.
—— elegans.
—— vlangali.

Phasianus strauchi.
—— decollatus.
—— torquatus.
—— satscheunensis.
—— formosanus.
—— versicolor.
—— ellioti.
—— humiæ.
—— sœmmerringi.
—— ——, subsp. scintillans.
—— reevesi.

"Since the appearance of that book in 1893, there have been 7 new forms described :—

Phasianus holdereri.
—— pallasi.
—— karpowi.
—— berezowskyi.
Phasianus sœmmerringi ijimæ.
—— burmanicus.
—— hagenbecki.

"Now all these races, except the *P. sœmmerringi*, *elliott*, and *reevesi* groups, replace one another and are never found side by side in the same locality; and where their ranges overlap, intermediate forms occur. Therefore I consider that all Mr. Grant's first 18 species and subspecies, together with *P. holdereri*, *pallasi*, *karpowi*, and *berezowskyi*, are subspecies of *Phasianus colchicus*. If, as is the case with the pheasants in England, two or more races are crossed and recrossed indefinitely, it is not wonderful that some of the offspring should resemble quite different races, but this does not prove that in their native haunts the birds are not distinct races breeding true. It would be just as absurd to say that because the English Red Deer and the Sika from Japan interbreed indefinitely they were one and the same animal.

"I exhibit specimens to-night of :—

Phasianus colchicus.
—— —— septentrionalis.
—— —— talischensis.
—— —— persicus.
—— —— principalis.
—— —— zerafshanicus.
—— —— shawi.
—— —— tarimensis.
—— —— chrysomelas.
—— —— mongolicus.
—— —— semitorquatus.
—— —— —— (aberr. sine torque).
—— —— elegans.
Phasianus colchicus vlangali.
—— —— strauchi.
—— —— pallasi.
—— —— karpowi.
—— —— torquatus.
—— —— satscheunensis.
—— —— formosanus.
—— —— versicolor.
—— —— berezowskyi.
—— —— hagenbecki.
—— sœmmerringi.
—— —— scintillans.
—— —— ijimæ.

and the following cross-bred birds :—

"*Phasianus colchicus* × *Ph. c. torquatus*, *Ph. colchicus* × *Ph. c. versicolor*, *Ph. c. versicolor* × *Ph. c. mongolicus*, *Ph. c. torquatus* × *Ph. c. versicolor*, *Ph. c. mongolicus* ×

Ph. c. torquatus × *Ph. colchicus,* and *Ph. colchicus* × *Ph. sœmmerringi.*

"I have restored the form *Ph. colchicus septentrionalis,* sunk by Mr. Grant, for, although some North Caucasian birds are indistinguishable from true *Ph. colchicus,* yet the greater number are separable."

Mr. Rothschild further exhibited a skin of *Fulica cornuta.* This was the second specimen known, the type in the Paris Museum having been hitherto unique. The example shown had been obtained by Monsieur G. A. Baer in February 1903, on a lake 5000 metres (about 17,000 ft.) high on the Cerro Pelado, one of the highest mountains of the most western cordillera of the Aconqueja Mountains, above the valley of Santa Maria, and about 100 kilometres north-west of Tucuman. Only one pair was seen, of which only the male could be shot. The water of the lake was icy cold. *F. cornuta* was the most peculiar species of the genus, on account of the extraordinary fleshy wattle, with strong bristles at the tip, which projects forward from the forehead.

Mr. Rothschild also exhibited 12 drawings of the following species and subspecies of the genus *Casuarius,* and described 3 species and 3 subspecies of them as new, making the subjoined remarks :—

Casuarius unappendiculatus, ♂ & ♀.
—— —— mitratus, n. subsp.
—— —— suffusus, n. subsp.
—— casuarius chimæra, n. subsp.
Casuarius bennetti.
—— —— maculatus.
—— doggetti, n. sp.
—— hagenbecki, n. sp.
—— jamrachi, n. sp.

CASUARIUS UNAPPENDICULATUS MITRATUS, n. subsp.

This new form is at once distinguishable from the others of this species by having a casque shaped like that of *Casuarius philipi* and *C. casuarius*—that is, compressed in front and at the sides and depressed posteriorly. The head, face, throat, and occiput, as well as the upper part of hind-neck, deep blue; rest of hind-neck lemon-yellow. Fore-part and sides of neck deep crimson. Caruncle and numerous spots on fore-neck blue. Size very large.

Habitat unknown.

CASUARIUS UNAPPENDICULATUS SUFFUSUS, n. subsp.

Similar to *C. unappendiculatus rufotinctus*, but without the orange occipital patch, the blue colour does not run down the fore-neck to the caruncle, and the red colour of the neck is much more fiery and deeper in shade. Casque green, suffused with black, very high and compressed throughout, as in *C. casuarius*.

Habitat unknown.

CASUARIUS CASUARIUS CHIMÆRA, n. subsp.

This most extraordinary bird unfortunately died when only a half-grown chick about the size of a turkey-cock, but its characters are so strange that I cannot refrain from describing it. Casque about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch high, head and neck still covered with down. Head, occiput, orbital region, and fore-neck dull leaden blue; cheeks deep blue, with a yellow patch on the lower mandible. Sides of the neck dull lavender. Hind-neck dull greyish pink. Wattles separate, dull lavender-blue. Whole plumage intense black, *not* brown as in other young Cassowaries.

Habitat unknown.

I have now to describe three new species of *Casuarius* which form an entirely new section of the genus, and I believe, although their habitat is at present doubtful, they will eventually be found to come from the Admiralty Islands. They are still immature and in brown plumage, with their necks much covered with down, but they can nevertheless be easily recognized.

CASUARIUS DOGGETTI, n. sp.

Whole head and neck lemon-yellow, lores, orbit, and ear greenish blue. Bill and undeveloped casque yellow, washed with horn-brown. Two pear-shaped single caruncles on the fore-neck, one above the other.

This species is named after Mr. F. Doggett, of Cambridge, who has charge of the living birds.

Casuarius jamrachi, n. sp.

Entire head and neck crimson. Lores, sides of face, and throat blue. Two separate pendent blue wattles on the throat and a large pear-shaped blue caruncle on the lower fore-neck.

This species is named after Mr. William Jamrach, who procured the bird for me.

Casuarius hagenbecki, n. sp.

Head and neck yellow, lores black, orbital region green. Two yellow wattles running down the sides of the throat from the angle of the lower mandible, one round yellow caruncle on the fore-neck.

The species is named after Mr. Carl Hagenbeck, from whom I obtained the bird.

Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant exhibited a pair of the Purple-backed Paradise-Crow (*Phonygama purpureo-violacea*), together with the body of the male bird in spirits, showing the extraordinary convoluted subcutaneous trachea in its natural position. These interesting specimens, together with other birds from South-east New Guinea, had been collected by Capt. F. R. Barton and presented by him to the British Museum. It would be observed that the convoluted trachea, which had not previously been examined in this species, covered the entire pectoral muscles in the male, but in the female (which had been examined by Captain Barton, but not preserved) the trachea was normal and straight. The note of this species was described as being prolonged, bass, and guttural. In several other species of *Phonygama* and in the allied genus *Manucodia* the trachea had been already described and figured by Signor Pavesi, Dr. A. B. Meyer, and other naturalists, and tracings of a number of the illustrations given in their various works were handed round for comparison. One of Signor Pavesi's figures of *P. keraudreni* [*cf.* Ann. Mus. Civ. Genov. ix. p. 68, fig. 1 (1876)] had twelve folds counting along a transverse line drawn through the centre of the coil, and closely resembled the trachea of *P. purpureo-violacea* exhibited. It would appear that the disposition and length of the trachea in individuals of the same species varied greatly. In all females and young males it was either straight or very slightly convoluted. As the males became adult the trachea greatly increased in length, and in old birds coiled spirally on the breast or was disposed in some other aberrant manner [*cf.* Pavesi, *l. c.* figs. 4, 5]. From the drawings of the trachea in the various species of *Manucodia* it would be observed that in this genus it was always much shorter and simpler, being merely a simple loop extending to the vent in the most highly developed specimens. The external differences between the genera *Manucodia* and *Phonygama* were thus further emphasised by this secondary sexual character, which gave additional evidence that the genera were well founded. Mr. Grant stated that it was his intention to gather together all the available information on the subject and publish a *résumé* in the 'Proceedings of the Zoological Society.'

Dr. F. D. Drewitt exhibited an autograph letter of John Latham (on the occasion of his marriage in 1798) written to William Jones, one of the early members of the Linnean Society.

Dr. Drewitt also exhibited an Illustrated MS. Catalogue of British Birds' Eggs by William Jones, drawn from specimens in his own collection in 1799. He also exhibited some of the eggs from which the drawings had been made. The drawings were remarkably well executed, though in some cases the colours had deteriorated.

Major F. W. Proctor and Mr. W. Radcliffe Saunders exhibited a number of clutches of eggs of the Little Stint (*Tringa minuta*), together with adult birds and young in down, collected by Herr Koren, of the Danish "Northern Light" Expedition, at Matotchkin Shar, Novaya Zemlya, on July the 7th and 8th, 1903.

Mr. H. J. Pearson also brought for comparison a large number of clutches of eggs of the Little Stint taken by himself and Colonel H. W. Feilden in the same country and on the islands of Dolgoi and Waigats during the summer of 1897 [*cf.* Bull. B. O. C. vii. no. xlvii. p. ii (1897); and 'Ibis,' 1898, p. 200].

Major Proctor read a letter from Herr Koren giving a general account of the bird-life met with during his residence in Novaya Zemlya.

Mr. Radcliffe Saunders also exhibited (1) a clutch of five eggs of the Red-footed Falcon (*Falco vespertinus*), taken in Hungary on May 23rd, 1903. The eggs were found in a remarkable nest, consisting of wool and similar material, placed on the top of a Carrion-Crow's nest. The structure was eight inches deep, and Herr Cewa, who found it, stated that, from his frequent observations, he believed it to have been constructed by the Falcons. (2) A nest with five eggs of the Meadow-Pipit (*Anthus pratensis*) taken near Faversham in May 1903. The eggs were of a light blue colour like those of the Wheatear, and marked with faint yellowish-brown dots.

Dr. P. Sushkin sent some descriptions of new subspecies of birds from Palæarctic Asia, together with remarks on their geographical distribution:—

a. Middle Kirghiz Steppe (north of Caspian and Aral Seas, between 52° and 65° long. E. of Greenwich).

Sylvia curruca halimodendri, n. subsp.

S. curruccæ similis, ala ut in var. *affini* (67277), sed rostro breviore; supra multo pallidior et magis grisescens, pileo occipiteque cinereis, minus brunnescentibus, quam in *S. curruca*. A *S. minuscula* rostro paullo longiore, formula remigum, dorso brunnescenti-griseo nec isabellino, pileoque obscuriore distinguenda.

Hab. Arenosa ad fluviorum Irghiz et Turgaï cursus inferiores, agri Kirgizorum pars meridionali-orientalis.

Obs. This pale and greyish form of *S. curruca* is based on six specimens killed by myself. Its range, so far as is known at present, is rather restricted, as the bird certainly does not penetrate to Turkestan or farther north and west of the locality named; the rest of Kirghiz Steppe being occupied by the common *S. curruca*, L., together with its blunt-winged ally, *S. affinis*, Blyth. Both these Warblers were observed at the lower Irghiz and lower Turgaï on passage only, but do not breed there. The true *S. minuscula*, Hume, does not breed north of the valley of Syr-Darya, and only appears in the Kirghiz Steppe as a very rare straggler.

The Stone-Sparrow (*Petronia petronia*, L.) of the Middle Kirghiz Steppe proved to be a pale Asiatic form, *Petronia petronia brevirostris*, Dyb. This subspecies penetrates to the west as far as the lower course of the Ural. The Stone-Sparrows of Turkestan also belong to this form. Persian specimens are not to be distinguished from European ones.

b. Western part of Sayan range (89°–94° long. E. of Greenwich) and the adjacent country.

CINCLUS CINCLUS BIANCHII, n. subsp.

Albiventris, *C. leucogastro* similis, sed capite dorsoque superiore murino-brunneis, minime rufescentibus, interscapulio, imo, dorso inferiore uropygioque schistaceis, distincte nigro squamulatis. Scapularibus schistaceo tinctis, interdum nigro indistincte squamatis.

Hab. Jugum Sayan omne, versus orientem usque ad læcum Baical.

CINCLUS CINCLUS MIDDENDORFFI, n. subsp.

C. sordido similis, sed scapularibus, dorso inferiore uropygioque obscure brunneis, nec cinerascentibus et minime squamulatis; tectricibus alæ minoribus saturate brunneis, cinereo haud marginatis.

Hab. Jugi Sayan pars media.

Obs. C. bianchii is perhaps the most common Dipper of the Sayan range, but does not penetrate farther north, or westwards to Altai. I procured four specimens on the Sayan range, received nine more from my correspondent, and thirteen specimens from Dr. Lorenz obtained at Lake Baical. *C. middendorffi* seems to be very scarce. I got two specimens from my correspondent; a third specimen was received by Middendorff from his correspondents, and is preserved in the Zoological Museum of the St. Petersburg Academy. It cannot be considered as a hybrid between *C. baicalensis* and one of the dark-breasted Dippers, because none of the latter exist in the locality.

The third form which inhabits the country is *C. baicalensis*, Dresser. In the Sayan range it is almost as common as *C. bianchii*, but is distributed very much more widely, the extreme points of its area being Baical, Krasnoyarsk, Russian Altai, and N.W. Mongolia.

PHYLLOSCOPUS TRISTIS AXILLARIS, n. subsp.

A *Ph. tristis* subalaribus et axillaribus isabellino-albidis straguloque magis grisescenti distinguenda.

Hab. Ad cursum medium fluminis Yenisei (55° N. lat.).

REGULUS CRISTATUS COATSI, n. subsp.

R. cristato simillimus, sed pilei lateribus et nucha cinereis, vix lutescenti lavatis, nec obscuris, ut in *R. japonico*.

Hab. Jugi Sayan zona subalpina.

PŒCILE CINCTA SAYANA, n. subsp.

Ad *P. cinctam* typicam maxime accedit; rostro multo longiore et crassiore; subalaribus et axillaribus concoloribus, ferrugineo-brunnescenti tinctis, rectricibus indistincte cinereo nec flavescenti-griseo limbatis, pileo magis cinerascenti, ut in *P. obtecta*. Ala 73 mm., cauda 69, culmen corneum 11, a glabella 13, rostrum a narina 9·5, gonys 8.

Hab. Sayan occidentalis, Altai.

Obs. It is rather remarkable that this new form is decidedly more like the western *P. cincta*, Bodd., and not the Siberian *P. cincta obtecta*, Cab. This case is parallelled by the fact that the Spotted Woodpeckers of Sayan Range (*Picus major, leuconotus, minor*, *Apternus tridactylus*) belong to the *typical European* forms, whereas at Krasnoyarsk they are replaced by pale Siberian subspecies.

The Remiz Titmouse proved to be very common at the upper course of Yenisei, south of Sayan. I only got specimens in autumn plumage; but though there were adult birds among them, none of those obtained or observed had any trace of the typical black "moustache." Hence this bird should be considered as new, and may be provisionally described as:—

REMIZA YENISEENSIS, n. sp.

R. veste autumnali fronte superciliоque albidis, distinctis;

loris albidis, minime nigrescentibus, quo ab omnibus speciebus palæarcticis distinguenda. Ala 52–55 mm., cauda 44–47, culm. 8–9, rostrum a naribus 6·5–7·5.

Hab. Mongoliæ septentrionalis pars inter juga Sayan et Tannu-ola posita, ad cursum superiorem fluminis Yenisei.

Obs. In working over my Titmice of the *Remiza* group, I found that two other forms from Asia should be considered as distinct. One of them was brought by Przevalski from Central Asia and was mistaken by Pleske for *"Ægithalus" stoliczkæ,* Hume; another is from Turkestan, and was named by Severtzoff as *Ægithalus jaxartensis*, but never described. Both birds should be considered as local forms of *Remiza pendulina.*

Remiza pendulina centralasiæ, n. subsp.

Ægithalus stoliczkæ, Hume apud Pleske.

R. pendulinæ simillima, sed paullo minor, rostro breviore et graciliore, tectricibus alæ minoribus intense isabellinis, minime castaneo tinctis; tectricibus alæ majoribus limbo apicali fere duplo latiore, quam in *R. pendulina,* zona dorsi castanea angustiore.

Hab. Asia centralis.

Remiza pendulina jaxartensis, n. subsp.

R. pendulinæ valde simillima, rostro breviore et graciliore, zona dorsi castanea (in avibus ejusdem ætatis!) minus saturata, tectricibus alæ minoribus castaneo tinctis, sic ut in *R. pendulina*, tectricibus alæ majoribus limbo apicali lato, ut in *R. centralasiæ.*

Hab. Turkestan.

Obs. Some new facts of distribution are also worthy of attention. *Heteropygia acuminata,* Horsf., was met with in summer in the Minusinsk district: three specimens were killed, but none seem to have bred there. The Bustard of Minusinsk Steppe and N. Mongolia (between Sayan and Tannu-ola) proved to be *Otis dybowskii,* Tacz., and is rather plentiful there. No eastern Ducks are of regular occurrence, with the exception of *Œdemia carbo,* Pall., which breeds in Minusinsk district. *Cygnopsis cygnoides,* Pall., is a common summer bird in N. Mongolia, and also breeds in Minusinsk district. The Lesser Kestrel is represented by *Tinnunculus cenchris* and *T. cenchris pekinensis.* The dark Booted Eagle (*Eutolmaëtus minutus,* Brehm) is fairly common in N. Mongolia, in the poplar trees bordering Yenesei. Of the Buzzards, *Buteo vulpinus, B. ferox,* and *Archibuteo strophiatus* were observed in summer, the two latter in Mongolia only. *Hierofalco altaicus* was seen once; it seems to be a bird of the elevated steppe (5000–6000 feet). *Arundinax aëdon,* Pall., and *Herbivocula schwarzi,* Radde, penetrate westwards to the eastern slopes of the Kusnetzk Alatau (western border of Minusinsk district). *Herbivocula fuscata,* Blyth, is still very common in Yenisei. *Phylloscopus humii,* Brooks, is plentiful in Sayan; but no *Ph. superciliosus,* Gm., was ever seen. *Phylloscopus viridanus,* Blyth, belongs to the northern slope of Sayan, and is replaced on the southern slope and in Mongolia by *Ph. plumbeitarsus,* Swinh. *Polyomyias luteola,* Pall., is very common in the eastern part of Minusinsk district, but does not cross the Yenesei. *Larvivora sibilans,* Swinhoe, has the same distribution. *Turdus ruficollis* is plentiful in the subalpine zone of Sayan and on the southern slope. On the northern slope it is replaced by *T. atrigularis.* The House-Martin of the country is the true *Chelidon urbica,* and not, as one would expect, its eastern ally. *Emberiza spodocephala* was traced as far as the Kusnetzk Alatau.

Mr. Howard Saunders informed the Members of the Club that as he was shortly leaving England for Spain, and would probably be absent for three months, he had handed over the balance of the "Kite Fund" to Mr. Ogilvie-Grant, so that the money might be available if required. He had written to Mr. J. H. Salter on the subject.

The Annual Dinner of the British Ornithologists' Union has been arranged to take place at the Trocadero Restaurant, on Wednesday, 11th May, 1904. The price of the Dinner will be 7*s.* 6*d.*; and it is hoped that the attendance will be larger than on the previous occasion.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 17th of February, 1904, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M. Members intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Ogilvie-Grant.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, *Chairman.*

W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, *Acting-Editor & Secretary.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CIV.

The hundred and third Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 17th of February, 1904.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—Boyd Alexander, E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, W. R. Butterfield, H. E. Dresser, F. D. Drewitt, M.D., F. Finn, C. Garnett, H. Goodchild, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, E. Hartert, Col. P. W. L'Estrange, G. E. Lodge, H. Munt, E. Neale, T. Parkin, F. G. Penrose, M.D., A. E. Price, W. E. Renaut, Hon. W. Rothschild, M.P., F. C. Selous, D. Seth-Smith, W. B. Tegetmeier, Major H. Terry, J. S. White, L. A. Williams, C. J. Wilson, C. A. Wright.

Guests: H. Tabor Brooks, G. V. Clarke, D.S.O., C. E. Hellmayr (*Guest of the Club*), Major Sir Archibald Lamb, Bart.

Mr. W. Ruskin Butterfield exhibited a female specimen of *Bulweria bulweri*, which had been found dead on the shore a little to the west of St. Leonard's-on-Sea, on the 4th of February, 1904. The specimen was closely examined by Mr. Butterfield soon after it was picked up, and while it was still sodden with sea-water. He was able to match it with skins from Madeira.

It was not a little singular that a second Sussex example of Bulwer's Petrel should occur almost on the same day of the year as the first (*cf.* Bull. B. O. C. vol. xiii. p. 51, 1903), and also after prolonged south-westerly gales. The present specimen was the third known to have occurred in Britain. During the recent gales large numbers of sea-birds had succumbed, and most of those found dead on the beach were in very poor condition.

Mr. Butterfield also referred to Count Salvadori's letter in the current number of 'The Ibis' (1904, p. 166) in regard to the species of *Œstrelata* occurring at Madeira and the Cape Verde Islands and commonly assigned to *Œ. mollis*. Count Salvadori had clearly shown that this Petrel could be separated from *Œ. mollis*, and he had proposed for it the name *Œstrelata feæ* [Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen. (2) xx. p. 305 (1899)]. Skins of the two forms were shown, and it was pointed out that *Œ. feæ* differed conspicuously from *Œ. mollis* in being smaller and in the absence of the dark pectoral band, which is always present to a greater or less extent in the latter form.

Mr. Ernst Hartert exhibited an example of a new subspecies of *Certhia brachydactyla*, which he described as follows:—

CERTHIA BRACHYDACTYLA DOROTHEÆ, n. subsp.

This new form of *Certhia* possesses all the main features of *C. brachydactyla*,—*i. e.* the dark patch on the under wing-coverts just in front of the first primaries, the long bill, and greyish upper surface. It differs from *C. brachydactyla brachydactyla* in the much darker blackish-brown ground-colour of the upper surface, the greyish-brown, instead of rusty-rufous, upper tail-coverts, the darker and more brownish tail, and the constant absence of a pale fulvous spot on the fourth primary, which is sometimes indicated but generally absent in German examples of *C. brachydactyla*. In lacking this fulvous spot it agrees with *C. brachydactyla harterti*, from the Alum Dagh in Asia Minor, which is, however, much more rufous brown, less blackish on the upper surface, rufous on the lower rump and upper tail-coverts, and reddish brown on the tail.

C. brachydactyla dorotheæ inhabits the pine-forests of

Troödos, in Cyprus. Type no. 151, Troödos, 4.1.1904, in the Tring Museum, collected by Mr. C. Glaszner. It is named in honour of Miss Dorothy M. A. Bate, who made interesting collections in Cyprus and wrote an article on them in 'The Ibis' for 1903 (pp. 571–581), discussing the peculiarities of the Cypriote Creepers.

Mr. Hartert also exhibited *Certhia familiaris familiaris*, *C. familiaris britannica*, *C. brachydactyla brachydactyla*, and *C. brachydactyla harterti*. He pointed out that the last-named, described by Mr. Hellmayr as a subspecies of *Certhia familiaris*, was really a form of *C. brachydactyla*.

Mr. E. Hartert further exhibited a new Dipper, which he described as follows :—

Cinclus cinclus sardus, n. subsp.

Nearest to *Cinclus cinclus cinclus* from Scandinavia, and equally dark on the breast and abdomen, but the top of the head and neck are paler, somewhat more mixed with greyish, and not of so chocolate-brown a colour. The dimensions are less : ♂, wing 90–94 mm., against 95–97 in *C. c. cinclus.*

Hab. Sardinia (type, ♂, 14.11.1902), Ilbano, Ogliastra, Sardinia (no. 3939, *Mus. Rothschild*).

It is interesting to find that Sardinia is tenanted by a resident dark-bellied form of the Dipper closely allied to that found in Scandinavia, while the intermediate parts of Central Europe are occupied by rufous-bellied forms.

Mr. Hartert also informed the members of the Club that Captain Polatzek had found the blue-backed Chaffinch (*Fringilla palmæ*, Tristr.) of the Island of Palma also on Hierro; and *Phylloscopus rufus fortunatus*, which was formerly only known from the Western Canary Islands, on Lanzarote.

Mr. C. E. Hellmayr exhibited the types of five South-American birds, which he described as follows :—

Deconychura secunda, n. sp.

Dendrocincla sp. inc., Goodfellow, Ibis, 1902, p. 62.

♀ *ad.* Similar to *D. typica* Cherrie, but differs in its considerably smaller size, much weaker and shorter bill, chestnut (instead of olivaceous) rump, and olivaceous-brown (not chestnut-rufous) bend of the wing. The light shaft-stripes, which in the Central-American species are extended over the nape, are in the new form restricted to the crown, the fulvous spots confined to the throat and much less conspicuously edged with brown, and the breast uniform without any light markings. Wing 84½, tail 90, culmen 20 mm.

Hab. Coca R., Upper Napo, in Eastern Ecuador.

Typus in Mus. Tring: ♀ ad. (*Goodfellow Coll.*).

D. secunda extends the range of the genus from Central America to Ecuador. Mr. Cherrie, when describing *D. typica*, had only two specimens with apparently incomplete tails, for he says that the bird has only ten rectrices, whereas the three specimens in the Tring Museum and four others in the British Museum possess twelve. He compared the genus with *Glyphorhynchus* and *Sittasomus*, but a close examination proves it to be much more nearly related to, perhaps barely separable from, *Dendrocincla*, from which it differs mainly in the form of the bill and nostrils. The bill is flatter and lower, with the culmen not rounded, but conspicuously ridged and more abruptly compressed towards the tip. The nostrils in *Dendrocincla* are entirely hidden by a membrane, except a very narrow slit-like opening on the lower edge, whereas in *Deconychura* the whole lower portion of the nasal groove is exposed. *Dendrocincla longicauda*, Pelz., shows the same structure, but is, of course, easily distinguishable by its much larger size, heavier and longer bill, and other details.

DYSITHAMNUS AROYÆ, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Upper parts very dark slate-grey, inclining to blackish on the crown and occiput, the forehead being slaty with indistinct darker shaft-lines. Wing-coverts black, with large white spots on the tips; quills and tail-feathers blackish, edged with slate-grey, and the latter broadly tipped with white, these tips being narrower on the inner ones and barely perceptible on the middle pair. Sides of the head and lower surface dark slate-grey, like the back. Axillaries somewhat paler grey, the inner webs of the quills broadly edged with white ; under tail-coverts with narrow white apical margins : bill blackish, base of the lower jaw light plumbeous. Wing 67, tail 55, tarsus 22, bill 17¾ mm.

Hab. La Aroya, Inambari valley, Marcapata district, S.E. Peru, elev. 3000 ft.

Typus in Mus. Tring : ♂, 22.4.01 (*G. Ockenden Coll.*, no. 95).

This species has no very near ally. It differs from *D. ardesiacus*, Scl. & Salv., in lacking the blackish throat, in having much broader white tips to the tail-feathers, and the upper wing-coverts tipped with white. It is not quite a typical member of the genus *Dysithamnus*, the bill being somewhat broader at the base and the tail much graduated; but as in the latter respect some of the species, especially *D. murinus* (Scl. & Salv.), come very near to it, I think it better to place it in that genus than to create a new one for its reception.

THAMNOPHILUS PARAGUAYENSIS, n. sp.

♂ *fere ad.* Crown black, back grey; the feathers of the middle portion broadly white at the base, and mixed with black; upper tail-coverts black, tipped with white. Wing-coverts black with broad white margins at the tips; bend of wing white; quills black, outwardly margined with whitish, the secondaries more broadly so; tail-feathers black, all except the central ones with broad white tips, and the outermost pair with a long white margin on the outer web; lores whitish; sides of the head grey, with whitish shaft-lines; lower parts white : bill black, lower mandible somewhat paler. Wing 68–72, tail 64, culmen 16–17 mm.

Hab. Colonia Risso, Rio Apa, in Northern Paraguay.

Typus : Mus. Tring : ♂ fere ad. (*Borelli Coll.*, no. 398).

This bird has been identified by Count Salvadori as *Th. cærulescens*, Vieill., but it differs from a series of that species from Paraguay (Foster coll.) as well as from all the other species of the *Th. nævius*-group to which it belongs, in having the under surface whitish instead of plumbeous.

FORMICIVORA ORENOCENSIS, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Similar in general appearance to *F. grisea*, *F. intermedia*, and *F. tobagensis*, but at once known by its rufous-brown (instead of mouse- or earthy-brown) upper surface. It differs from *F. rufa* (Wied) in the entire absence of the rufous colour on the flanks, which are uniform white, and in the much broader white tips to the tail-feathers, and larger white spots to the tips of the greater upper wing-coverts.

♀ *ad.* Similar to the same sex of *F. tobagensis*, but differs in its rufous-brown (instead of mouse-brown) back and in having the ground-colour of the lower surface pure white (instead of bright buff) and the black shaft-stripes on the breast, which are also extended over the throat, much broader and more regular; whereas in the allied species the throat is uniform, and only the chest is indistinctly striped.

The female of *F. rufa* may be distinguished by its rufous flanks.

Hab. Orinoco and Caura Rivers in Venezuela.

Typus in Mus. Tring: ♂ ad. Altagracia, Orinoco (*Cherrie Coll.*, no. 8472).

This species has been identified by Messrs. Berlepsch and Hartert as *F. intermedia*, Cab., from which, however, it is obviously distinct. *F. intermedia*, described from Carthagena, N. Colombia, and Aragua, N.E. Venezuela, has the back always earthy brown without any admixture of reddish, and the female is very differently coloured underneath.

SERPOPHAGA PARAMBÆ, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Above light ashy grey; crown slightly freckled with blackish, and with a large white blotch in the middle. Lesser wing-coverts like the back, the middle and greater ones blackish with large white apical spots; quills blackish, the secondaries broadly edged with white; tail-feathers dark brownish grey, with ashy-grey margins. Lores whitish; sides of the head grey, with narrow white shaft-lines on the ear-coverts. Below ashy grey, paler than the back, inclining to white on the chin; middle of abdomen and under tail-coverts pure white, as well as the axillaries and inner edge of the quills. Bill blackish; base of the lower jaw light brownish. Wing 57, tail 47, culmen 10 mm.

Hab. Paramba, N.W. Ecuador, 3500 feet.

Typus in Mus. Tring (*Miketta Coll.*, no. 473).

In the form of the bill and shortness of the tail this species agrees with *S. subcristata* and *S. munda*, but the pattern of coloration is more like that of *Elainea cinerea*, Pelz. (=*Serpophaga albogrisea*, Scl. & Salv.). From this latter, however, it is very easily distinguished by its much shorter tail and much shorter and differently-shaped bill.

Mr. T. Parkin, on behalf of Major Sir Archibald Lamb, Bart., who was also present as his guest, exhibited two nests found at Beauport, near Battle, Sussex, about 1896. They were joined to one another and placed side by side on a plank in a wood-stack, whence they were cut out in exactly the condition in which they were exhibited. One nest contained eggs of the Spotted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa grisola*), the other eggs of the Common Blue Tit (*Parus cæruleus*). Both nests appeared to have been built by the Flycatcher.

Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant described two new species—a Flowerpecker (*Pholidornis bedfordi*) and a Swift (*Cypselus sladeniæ*)—from Fernando Po, and made the following remarks :—

"The extraordinary ornithological results of Mr. Boyd Alexander's visit to the island of Fernando Po, when no less than *thirty-five* new species of birds were discovered (*cf.* Ibis, 1903, pp. 330–403, pls. vi. *a*–ix.), seemed to indicate that a second zoological expedition might meet with further success, or in any case procure additional examples of the many rare forms discovered by Mr. Alexander. Thanks to the generosity of the Duke of Bedford and Mrs. Percy Sladen, and the assistance of Mr. Walter Rothschild, the Trustees of the Natural History Museum were able to send out Mr. E. Seimund, one of their taxidermists, on this mission. He arrived at Santa Isabel, on the north coast of Fernando Po, in the third week of December 1903, and the first results of his labours have recently arrived and include a hundred and thirty-seven bird-skins, among which two species appear to be new :—

"PHOLIDORNIS BEDFORDI, n. sp.

"*Adult male and female.* Most nearly allied to *P. rushiæ*, but the brownish-black striations of the throat and chest are much deeper and wider and are also strongly marked on the belly and flanks; moreover, the wing-feathers are not edged with olive-green. Iris hazel; upper mandible black; lower mandible black at tip, yellow-ochre at base; feet yellow-ochre. Total length ca. 3·2 inches, wing 1·8, tail 1·1, culmen 0·34, tarsus 0·5.

"*Hab.* St. Isabel, N. Fernando Po, 25th December.

"These birds were met with in small flocks, frequenting high trees in company with other birds.

"CYPSELUS SLADENIÆ, n. sp.

"*Adult male.* Most nearly allied to *C. barbatus* from South Africa, but the general colour of the upper parts darker, sooty-black on the interscapular region, and the throat dusky with little or no trace of whitish. In *C. barbatus* the throat is white, with very distinct shaft-streaks. Bill black; feet dirty flesh-colour, nails black. Total length ca. 6·8 inches, wing 7·25, tail 3·05.

"Six birds sent home are all males and very evidently breeding birds, the testes being large.

"*Hab.* Fish-town, N. Fernando Po, 2nd January."

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 16th of March, 1904, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M. Members intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Ogilvie-Grant.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, *Chairman.*

W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, *Acting-Editor & Secretary.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CV.

The hundred and fourth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of March, 1904.

Chairman: H. J. Pearson.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, H. E. Dresser, E. Earle, F. Finn, F. W. Frohawk, J. Gerrard, H. Goodchild, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, E. Hartert, Colonel H. Jones, G. E. Lodge, Colonel A. P. Loyd, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, E. S. Montagu, H. C. Monro, H. Munt, F. M. Ogilvie, C. E. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, M.D., T. Digby Pigott, C.B., A. E. Price, W. P. Pycraft, Robert H. Read, W. E. Renaut, Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P., D. Seth-Smith, Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe (*Editor*), J. Stares, W. B. Tegetmeier, C. B. Ticehurst, Watkin Watkins, S. J. White, L. A. Williams, C. Whymper.

Visitors: A. Carr, G. Cobbett, G. Evans, C. E. Hellmayr, Dr. J. E. Kelso, Dr. A. Koenig (*Guest of the Club*), T. H. Newman, A. E. Pratt, H. C. Pratt.

The Chairman welcomed Dr. Koenig to the Club, and assured him of the pleasure which his presence afforded to the Members.

Dr. Koenig replied and thanked the Members of the B. O. C. for their kind reception. He hoped that some of

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them would attend the meetings of the German Ornithological Society, when they might be sure of an equally warm welcome.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild exhibited a number of hybrid Pheasants, together with skins of most of the parent species. He drew special attention to the following hybrids as being between very widely different parents and most difficult to obtain :—

Crossoptilon mantchuricum × Gennæus nycthemerus.
Lophophorus impeyanus × Gennæus muthura.
” ” × Catreus wallichi.
Syrmaticus reevesi × Gennæus muthura.
Chrysolophus pictus × Gennæus nycthemerus.

List of Hybrids exhibited.

Phasianus colchicus × Chrysolophus pictus.
” ” × Chrysolophus amherstiæ.
” ” × Syrmaticus reevesi.
” ” × Phasianus soemmeringi.
” ” × Gennæus horsfieldi.
Phasianus soemmeringi × Syrmaticus reevesi.
Chrysolophus pictus × Syrmaticus reevesi.
” ” × Chrysolophus amherstiæ.
” ” × Gennæus nycthemerus.
” ” × Gennæus albocristatus.
” ” × Gallus domesticus.
” ” × Gallus domesticus (Silky Fowl).
Gennæus nycthemerus × Crossoptilon mantchuricum.
” ” × Syrmaticus reevesi.
” ” × Gennæus swinhoei.
” ” × Gennæus lineatus.
” ” × Lophura nobilis.
Lophophorus impeyanus × Gennæus muthura.
” ” × Catreus wallichi.
Gennæus muthura × Gennæus lineatus.
” ” × Syrmaticus reevesi.
” ” × Calophasis ellioti.
Gennæus horsfieldi × Catreus wallichi.
” ” × Lophura ignita.
Gennæus swinhoei × Lophura diardi.
” ” × Lophura ignita.
Gennæus lineatus × Gennæus nycthemerus.

Mr. Rothschild also exhibited a new gigantic species of *Centropus* from the Solomon Islands, which he described as follows :—

Centropus albidiventris, n. sp.

♂ ♀ *ad.* Similar to *Centropus milo* from Guadalcanar, but with the entire underside and rump buff, while the latter has the abdomen and rump black, with metallic gloss. Wings and tail glossed with purplish blue, not in the least greenish. Size somewhat smaller. Wing 70, tail 34, metatarsus 66 to 70, culmen 59 mm. A young bird from Kulambangra resembles that of *C. milo*, but the bars on the back and rectrices are much wider.

Hab. Island of Gizo, near Kulambangra, Solomon Islands.

Type: ♂, No. A 729, Gizo, 3. xi. 1902 (*A. S. Meek Coll.*).

Mr. C. E. Hellmayr exhibited two rare South-American birds, and made the following remarks :—

"Pipile pipile (Jacq.).

"This species has been considered to be the same as *P. cumanensis* (Jacq.), a supposition which a glance at the two specimens I exhibit to-night will prove to be quite erroneous. Mr. Chapman (Bull. Amer. Mus. vi. 1894, p. 74) has already pointed out that the single adult *male* killed by him on the island of Trinidad was quite distinct from *P. cumanensis*. Mr. André has recently sent to the Tring Museum a fine adult *female* obtained at Caparo, Trinidad, which in every way bears out the characters given by Mr. Chapman. There can be no doubt, therefore, that *P. pipile* represents a very distinct species, much nearer to *P. jacutinga* (Spix) than to *P. cumanensis*, to which it has been commonly referred. The differences may be briefly described as follows :—

	P. pipile.	*P. cumanensis.*
Feathers of the forehead and crest	blackish, with narrow white edgings laterally.	buff, either uniform or with hair-like shaft-lines of a pale brown.
Back	dark brown, with slight purple reflections.	black, with a strong gloss of dark green.

	P. pipile.	*P. cumanensis.*
Greater wing-coverts:	the inner webs and tips blackish brown, the remainder of the outer web white.	both webs except the tips white.
Middle and lesser wing-coverts:	white, with a blackish-brown shaft-line, and large spot of the same colour on the tips.	black, with only narrow edges and patches.
Quills	dark brown.	glossy dark green.
Tail-feathers	except the middle pair blackish blue.	dark bronze-green.
Lower surface	dark brown, with a slight purple gloss here and there.	dark steel-green, feathers of the fore-neck and chest with narrow but very distinct white edges.

"Of *P. cumanensis* I have examined a splendid series of about 20 specimens in the Tring Museum from British Guiana, the Orinoco-Caura region, R. Napo, and N.E. Peru. The sexes in this species are alike in colour, but the females are very much smaller.

"From *P. jacutinga* (Spix) the Trinidad form differs in having the throat and fore-neck naked and in lacking the white margins to the feathers of the lower parts.

"Mr. Grant, when describing the Game-Birds for the 'Catalogue of Birds,' united *P. nattereri*, Rchb., from Matto-grosso with *P. cumanensis*, owing to the fact that he had no specimens of the former. I exhibit one specimen from Paraguay which agrees very well with Reichenbach's description and is obviously distinct from *P. cumanensis*. It differs from the latter in having the head and crest of a pure white (instead of buff), with narrow brownish-black shaft-lines, and in having two broad white stripes on the hind-neck, extending to the nape and separated, whereas in *P. cumanensis* the buff stripes are much shorter on the occiput, and end in a line with the tips of the crest-feathers. *P. nattereri* possesses on the fore-neck a free, narrow, pointed wattle, about 20 mm. in length, while in *P. cumanensis* the wattle is joined to the throat for the whole of its length (about 6 mm.), and resembles a dewlap."

[Mr. Ogilvie-Grant pointed out that a specimen in the British Museum (Peru, Gould Collection) agreed perfectly with the above description of *P. nattereri*, but the series of

P. cumanensis in the Museum seemed to indicate that the characters put forward by Mr. Hellmayr were not of specific value.]

"COPURUS FUNEBRIS, Cab. & Heine.

"This species, regarded by Dr. Sclater as the young of *C. colonus*, is evidently quite a distinct one, and differs from the latter in the entire absence of white in its plumage and by the form of the tail. Whereas in *C. colonus* the central pair of the tail-feathers are much narrowed and enormously elongated, in the present bird they are quite as broad as the other rectrices, and are only about 10 mm. longer than the shortest pair. The bill is of nearly the same shape, but decidedly broader at the base and more conspicuously ridged. The whole plumage is of a uniform dull black. Young specimens of *C. colonus*, without the long middle tail-feathers, have the white rump-band and the crown mixed with whitish and black. The specimen exhibited was collected by Mr. Alphonse Robert at Piquete, S. Paulo, in Southern Brazil, and is, as far as I know, the second on record."

Mr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited a new *Zosterops*, which he described as follows:—

ZOSTEROPS LUTEIROSTRIS, n. sp.

Zosterops supra luteo-viridis, fronte usque ad oculos, loris, linea suboculari nigris; annulo periophthalmico angusto albo; remigibus fuscis, marginibus exterioribus, secundariisque intimis dorso concoloribus, marginibus interioribus flavescenti-albis; rectricibus fuscis, ad basin luteo-viridi marginatis; subtus aureo-flava, corporis lateribus paullo viridi-lavatis, subalaribus albido-flavis; rostro pedibusque stramineis, iridibus rubris. Al. 59–61, caud. 39–39·6, rostr. 14, metatars. 17–18 mm. ♀ mari simillima, sed supra virescentior, subtus magis sulphurea.

Hab. Insula Salomonis Gizo dicta.

Typus: No. A 724, ♂ ad., 2. xi. 1902 (*A. S. Meek Coll.*).

Differt ab *Z. hypoxantha* annulo periophthalmico albo, colore nigro capitis magis restricto, necnon rostro pedibusque stramineis, a *Z. fuscicapilla* colore aureo-flavo abdominali, rostro pedibusque stramineis.

Mr. F. M. Ogilvie exhibited an adult pair of Red-crested Pochards (*Netta rufina*), shot on the Thorpe Mere, Aldeburgh, Suffolk, on January 16th, 1904, by Mr. Frank G. Garrett, Jun., on whose behalf he had brought them. The mere at that time was full of the Common Pochards, which were unusually wild, possibly from the number of punts continually "setting" at them. As far as he knew, these were the only birds of this species on the mere at the time, as they were secured quite by chance by a double shot with a fowling-gun, as they flew overhead at a distance of 50 or 60 yards.

Although the bird had been obtained on a good many occasions in England, he had thought it worth while to exhibit this pair of Suffolk birds. Excluding specimens killed at Breydon, the only authenticated Suffolk specimen, as far as he knew, was a bird (year not recorded) shot on Eastern Broad by Mr. Spalding, which fetched, at his sale, six guineas.

Mr. Frohawk exhibited a series of specimens of the Common Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*) to show the sexual variation in the form of the wings. In the expanded wing of the male the primaries were long and broad, giving a curved outline; the secondaries, being considerably shorter, added to the rounded appearance of the wing. In the expanded wing of the female the primaries and secondaries formed a continuous line, and the wing was much narrower.

The male had the following wing-formula:—

♂. 3rd primary longest.
2nd and 4th primaries equal.
1st primary = 7th.
7th, 8th, and 9th primaries 1¼ in. longer than ♀.
7th primary 1¼ in. wide (this being the average width of the inner primaries).

♀. 2nd and 3rd primaries equal and longest.
1st and 4th primaries equal.
7th 1 in. shorter than 1st.
7th 1 in. wide.

The female had the bill longer than that of the male.

Mr. Ogilvie-Grant exhibited a fine specimen of a Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabinei*) in the plumage of the first year. It had been shot near Christchurch early in November 1903 by Mr. E. A. Dobrée.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe described a new species of Swift from Camaroons as

Cypselus batesi, n. sp.

♀. *C.* unicolor, velutino-niger, vix purpureo nitens; gutture paullulum fuscescente; cauda valde furcata. Long. tot. 5·7 poll., culm. 0·25, alæ 5·15, caudæ 1·5, rectrice extima 2·65, tarsi 0·3.

Hab. Efulen, Sept. 29, 1903 (*G. L. Bates*).

This species appears to have no near ally. Its black throat and black head distinguish it from *C. toulsoni*, which is the only species which seems at all to resemble it.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe gave a short account of the voyage of the turbine yacht 'Emerald,' on which he had been the guest of Sir Frederic Johnstone, Bart., and his wife the Countess of Wilton. The 'Emerald' started from Monte Carlo on the 19th of November, 1903, and reached Funchal in Madeira on the 29th of the same month. On the 4th of December the ship left Funchal for the West Indies, arriving at St. Thomas on the 18th of December, being the first turbine yacht to cross the Atlantic. From St. Thomas (Dec. 18–20) to St. Kitts (Dec. 21) the expedition proceeded to Dominica, where a stay of five days was made at Roseau and Portsmouth (Dec. 22–28).

On the 28th the yacht left Dominica, and steamed past Martinique, where a halt was made and a short visit paid in the late afternoon of December 28th to St. Pierre—that dreadful city of the dead. Santa Lucia (Dec. 29) was the next place of call for coaling, and so on to Grenada, where New Year's Day was spent.

On the 4th of January the 'Emerald' left for Trinidad, but, owing to the scare of small-pox and the subsequent quarantine, no landing was possible, and after a stay of a few hours off this beautiful island, the yacht arrived at Porlamar, in Margarita Island, on the 6th of January, and afterwards anchored in Mangles Bay on the 8th. The evening of the 11th of January found the 'Emerald' in the Laguna Grande del Obispo, in the Gulf of Cariaco in Venezuela, and a subsequent stay of three days (Jan. 14–17) was made in the Gulf itself, off the "Marina" of Cariaco. Cumaná was reached on the evening of the 17th of January, and after remaining a few hours at Curaçao (Jan. 19) to replenish the coal-bunkers, the long journey across the Caribbean Sea had to be undertaken, and the 'Emerald' arrived at Grand Cayman, after a frightful passage, on the 25th of January, visited Cayman Brac on the 31st, and Little Cayman on the 1st of February. Here the yacht was storm-bound by a "norther" for some days, and was at last compelled to run for Jamaica, being nearly depleted of coal and food, and the anchor was cast in Kingston Harbour at 8 P.M. on Tuesday, the 10th of February, 1904; and thus Dr. Sharpe was enabled to catch the R.M.S. 'Trent,' which left for England at 12 P.M. on the same day.

During a voyage of two months, the 'Emerald' experienced nothing but the roughest of weather, and the collecting of natural history specimens was only to be accomplished under great difficulties. Dr. Sharpe was, therefore, pleased to announce to the Club that, owing to the kindness of his hosts, who, despite the gales, took their Yacht to several islands little known to ornithologists, he had been enabled to make a collection of nearly 400 specimens of birds, including several species which were previously unrepresented in the British Museum: thus the voyage of the 'Emerald' had added very materially to the National Collection. It was impossible, in the short time that the 'Emerald' stayed near the islands, to obtain collections in all branches of natural history, but the birds had turned out to be of great interest; and the collection of fish, which had been entirely made by Lady Wilton, had resulted in some important additions to the series in the British Museum.

Dr. SHARPE announced that an exhibition of the birds obtained during the voyage of the 'Emerald' would be made to a subsequent meeting of the Club, probably when Dr. Percy Lowe, who was Sir Frederic Johnstone's private medical attendant, returned to England. Dr. Lowe was an exceptionally keen naturalist, and had made a beautiful collection of birds during the voyage, and Dr. Sharpe was convinced that the Club would extend a very hearty welcome to his young comrade, who had been such an enthusiastic collector during the voyage of the 'Emerald.'

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe then read the following paper :—

"I exhibit a series of seven specimens of *Sula coryi*, Maynard, obtained in Little Cayman Island. Two of the birds obtained on our first landing were old white individuals of the third or fourth year. We also obtained four birds of the second year, brown with *white* tails : one younger bird, brown, with a tail *brown* for the most part (only the two centre tail-feathers being entirely *white*).

"*Sula coryi* is undoubtedly closely allied to *S. piscatrix*, and may yet prove to be identical with that species. At present its chief claim to specific distinction rests on some differences in the colour of the bare face of the adult and in the possession of a white-tailed brown plumage in the immature birds ; but certain specimens in the British Museum collection have been pointed out to me by Mr. Ogilvie-Grant which seem to indicate that *S. piscatrix* passes through a similar stage of plumage.

"Mr. Maynard has described the Cayman Gannet as *Sula coryi* in his 'Contributions to Science,' an octavo volume published by himself at Newtonville, Mass. (pp. 40–57, pl. i.). He has given an excellent account of the habits of the species, which breeds extensively on the island of Little Cayman and at the east end of Cayman Brac. I do not consider his estimate of 10,000 birds on the former island beyond the mark. The colour of the bare face given in plate i. of Mr. Maynard's article is, however, totally at variance with our experience, both in respect to the adult and the young birds, and the difference in colour between those obtained by

Dr. Lowe and myself and Mr. Maynard appears scarcely to be explained by the fact that we obtained our specimens early in February and the latter in May.

"I append the following extracts from my note-book, made from freshly-killed specimens, and as these were brought home to England in alcohol, the colours had scarcely faded when they arrived in the British Museum at the end of February. My description of the colours of the face is confirmed by the skins preserved by Dr. Percy Lowe, who took notes of the soft-parts at the same time.

"In the *white* birds the bill was pearly or opalescent *grey*, with a band of pink at the base of the culmen; the lores were bluish green or verditer, merging into cobalt-blue on the eyelid and above the eye; below the latter the colour was more emerald-green. A large orange patch was conspicuous at the base of the lower mandible, and the bare gular space was *black*, which extended around the posterior portion of the orange patch. The feet were bright brick-red or vermilion, the claws horny white, and the iris blackish.

"*Both the adult, white, birds* we shot on the first day had the orange patch on the mandible and perfecty black throats, but when Dr. Lowe and I visited the rookery to photograph the birds on their nests, one old Booby apparently became frightened and tumbled out of the nest at our feet. It was a white bird, but had a few brown feathers on the back, so that it was probably a bird of the third year. We captured it, but let it go after examining the colour of the face, and in this bird the mandibular patch was *pink*! This might have been due to rage or fright, as when these Gannets fell to the ground they could not rise, and we assisted more than one of these stupid birds to mount into the air. The *white birds on the nests* had, as far as we could see, *orange* mandibular patches, but another *white* bird, shot on our second landing, had this patch of a pink colour.

"In the 'second year' plumage, as I take it to be (*i. e.*, the *brown* birds with *white* tails), the colour of the face was very similar to that of the *old white* individuals, and the feet were of a brick-red or dingy vermilion colour. Those brown birds we obtained on the first day had the bill pearly grey, with the base of the culmen *pink,* and the base of the lower mandible *orange,* and the gular sac *black.*

"Three that Dr. Lowe obtained on a subsequent occasion differed somewhat. The youngest of the brown birds, with the tail *brown,* had the plumage paler and more of a greyish brown, and the feet were pale and of a yellowish orange, with a slight tinge of brick-red along the outer toe, and a little more yellow on the tarsus. The bill was opalescent, pinkish mauve, with the tip of both mandibles horny brown. There was *no orange or pink patch* on the base of the lower mandible, but the entire bill was of the same colour, with only a slight pinkish shade across the base of the culmen. The sides of the face were entirely blue, a little deeper on the lores, but with no green; the gular sac was *leaden grey.*

"A brown bird with white tail had the most beautiful bill of the whole series: it was of an opaline blue throughout, tinged with lavender, and exhibiting the usual pink bar across the base of the culmen; the base of the lower mandible was *fleshy pink*; the sides of the face dark *Prussian-blue,* inclining to *turquoisine-blue* behind the eye, with the edge of the eyelid *cobalt.* The gular sac was *leaden black,* not so intense black as in the white birds; the feet brick-red, not so bright as in the older individuals. Iris dark brown.

"A white bird obtained at the same time as the above had the mandibular patch *fleshy pink,* like the bar across the base of the culmen. Consequently the pink colour which we noticed on the before-mentioned living bird may have been perfectly natural after all, and not, as we supposed at the time, the result of the shock from its tumble out of its nest. Many of the *brown, white-tailed,* individuals had *pink* patches at the base of the lower mandible, and they must be tolerably old, as we found them nesting, and thus it may be that only the quite *old* birds have an orange mandibular patch, but the latter is also seen in some brown birds.

"The difference between the colours in the figures given by Mr. Maynard and those of the specimens observed by us is so remarkable, that it seems difficult to believe that his figures were taken from specimens observed in a fresh state.

"The Gannet was not seen on Grand Cayman. Its outward and homeward course from its fishing-grounds lay further out to sea, for the birds nested on Cayman Brac and Little Cayman. A breeding-place was reported on the eastern side of Cayman Brac, but we had no time to visit it. On Little Cayman, to the swamp not far from our anchorage, the Gannets came in large numbers and were found nesting in great abundance. At what time in the morning the birds left for their feeding-grounds out at sea we never discovered, though we were generally astir before daybreak. It would seem that they went off long before, probably in the darkness of the night, after having fed their mates; but the return journey began about 4 P.M., from which time a steady succession of parties of these Gannets flew by, or over, the Yacht, in flocks of from half a dozen to twenty or more. This flight continued till long after dark, and individuals were seen by our Captain, George Herbert, up to 10 P.M. These late arrivals were perhaps the wisest of the colony, as those which came back to the nesting-grounds in the late afternoon were frequently attacked by the Frigate-birds and made to disgorge their fish, which were probably intended for the food of the mate, then patiently sitting on the nest within easy distance. The interior of Little Cayman is an almost impenetrable swamp, but on the sandy shores cocoa-nut groves have been planted by the industrious inhabitants, and the Gannets nest in the morasses of the interior. They exhibited three phases of plumage: pure white with white tails, the fully adult birds; brown birds with white tails, which I take to be birds of the second year—quite mature and breeding birds, since we found some of these brown birds sitting on the nests; and, lastly, brown individuals with brown tails, which were doubtless young ones of the preceding season.

"By landing and lying in wait in the cocoa-nut groves, we were able to procure several of the *brown* birds, but the *white* ones flew further out to sea, and did not follow the track of the majority. Acting upon the advice of the inhabitants, we went further along the shore, and procured some white individuals as they flew in to the spot which we afterwards found to be their nesting-place. It was interesting to note that the old birds kept further out to sea on approaching the island, while the younger and more unsophisticated individuals made a shorter course along the shore, directly their home was in sight."

Mr. A. E. Pratt and his son, introduced by Mr. Frank Finn, exhibited some of the specimens of birds which they had collected during two years of residence in the Owen Stanley range in British New Guinea.

It was unanimously resolved that the next Meeting should be devoted to a Lantern-Slide Exhibition.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 20th of April, 1904, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m. Members intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Ogilvie-Grant.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

H. J. Pearson,	R. Bowdler Sharpe,	W. R. Ogilvie-Grant,
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Acting-Secretary.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CVI.

The hundred and fifth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 20th of April, 1904.

Chairman: H. J. Pearson.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, Colonel C. T. Bingham, H. E. Dresser, F. D. Drewitt, M.D., E. N. F. Fenwick, H. W. Finlinson, F. W. Frohawk, J. Gerrard, H. Goodchild, F. H. Carruthers Gould, Dr. E. Hartert, Bron Herbert, G. E. Lodge, J. McLean Marshall, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, E. S. Montagu, H. Munt, E. Neale, T. Parkin, C. E. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, M.D., H. L. Popham, A. E. Price, W. P. Pycraft, R. H. Read, W. E. Renaut, Hon. W. Rothschild, M.P., A. D. Sapsworth, W. Radcliffe Saunders, F. C. Selous, D. Seth-Smith, F. Sharman, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), Chas. J. Wilson.

Visitors: Dr. W. J. Ansorge, E. A. Bowles, Sir Walter Buller, K.C.M.G., F. G. Cannon, Lieut. Kauffmann, T. H. Newman, R. T. Parkin, G. W. Pearce, Theed Pearse, J. Sargent, L. M. Seth-Smith, J. Ernest Sharpe, L. Whiting.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild, M.P., exhibited a new species of Parrot from the Philippines which he described as follows:—

Prioniturus waterstradti, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Forehead to the eyes pale blue, the feathers being

Smithsonian Institution

green at base, lores and sides of face greenish blue, sinciput and nape grass-green. Scapulars and back green with a slight brownish tinge; rump light greenish brown. Wings outwardly bright green, inner webs of remiges blackish from above, pale bluish from below. Upper wing-coverts grass-green, slightly tinged with blue near the bend of the wing. Rectrices bright green from above, bluish from below, tipped with dull black for about 12 to 14 mm., the central pair quite green except the shaft and spatules, which are dull black. Entire underside uniform yellowish green. Bill (in skin) whitish with leaden-grey base; feet dark grey. Wing 152 to 157, tail about 66, with lengthened central pair 120 to 140, culmen from cere 22, metatarsus 15 mm. One specimen marked "♀" is similar to the male.

Hab. Mount Apo, South Mindanao, 3000 feet. (3 specimens.)

Named in honour of its discoverer, Mr. John Waterstradt.

Type in the Tring Museum, no. 77 : October 1903.

The brownish rump, less amount of blue on the forehead, and smaller size distinguish this bird easily from *Prioniturus discurus*, which occurs also on Mindanao, but probably at lower altitudes.

Dr. Ernst Hartert exhibited some new birds from Angola and Mindanao which he described as follows:—

PARMOPTILA ANSORGEI, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Forehead red, rest of upper surface dull olive-brown with buffy-brown shaft-lines. Remiges dark brown, outer webs narrowly margined with dull rufous-brown. Tail dark olive-brown. Throat and sides of head bright cinnamon; rest of under surface creamy buff, each feather with wide olive-grey zigzag-shaped margins, those of the flanks with crescentic marks and interrupted cross-bars of the same colour. "Bill black. Iris blood-red; feet pale flesh-colour."

♀ *ad.* Like the male, but the forehead light brown, not red. Wing, ♂ 52, ♀ 51·7; tail 40, bill 10, metatarsus 15 mm.

Type in Mus. Rothschild, Tring: ♂ *ad.* Golungo Alto, North Angola, 9. i. 1904. No. 13. Dr. W. J. Ansorge Coll.

Hab. Golungo Alto, North Angola. One pair shot, 9. i. 1904.

The genus *Parmoptila* is well distinguished from *Pholidornis* by its shorter first primary and thicker, less ridged bill.

Captain Shelley's genus *Rhodornis* is evidently more nearly allied to *Parmoptila* than to *Pholidornis*, and it will be best to follow Dr. Sharpe in uniting it with the former. The specimens of *Parmoptila woodhousei* from Cameroons, of which *P. ansorgei* might only be considered a subspecies, have the upperside rufous chocolate-brown, the throat deeper cinnamon-rufous, and the markings of the underside darker. I am inclined to think that the Cameroons birds cannot be the true *P. woodhousei*, which is said to have the abdomen white with blackish spots, a greenish tinge on the back, and other peculiarities not noticeable in the Cameroons bird.

SMITHORNIS CAPENSIS ALBIGULARIS, n. subsp.

Differs from *S. capensis capensis* in having narrower black shaft-stripes on the underside and a slightly narrower bill. The wing also seems to be generally a few mm. shorter. The white on the throat is more extended.

Hab. Canhoca, North Angola.

Type: ♂, 23. xi. 1903. No. 1232. A series collected by Dr. W. J. Ansorge.

CHLOROPETA NATALENSIS MAJOR, n. subsp.

Much larger than *C. natalensis natalensis*; underside brighter, of a beautiful golden yellow, the crown hardly darker than the back; a very distinct superciliary line from lores to about 5 or 6 mm. beyond the eye. Wing, ♂ 68, ♀ 63 mm.

Hab. Canhoca and Pungo Andongo in Northern Angola.

Type: no. 1545, Canhoca, 23. xii. 1903. Dr. W. J. Ansorge Coll.

HIRUNDO ALBIGULARIS MICROPTERA, n. subsp.

Exactly like *H. albigularis albigularis* but smaller, the wing being 5 to 10 mm. (generally about 8 to 10 mm.) shorter.

Hab. North Angola (Ambaca; Duque de Braganza).

Type: no. 168, ♂, Ambaca, 18. v. 1903. Collected by Dr. W. J. Ansorge.

PSEUDOTHARRALEUS UNICOLOR, n. sp.

♀. Of exactly the same structure as *P. caudatus*, Grant ('Ibis,' 1895, p. 448, pl. xiii.), from Luzon, but the tail much shorter, the upperside deeper rufous-brown, the whole underside rufous-brown with an olive tinge, only the upper throat lighter and somewhat tinged with buff. Wing 92·5, tail 75, culmen from forehead 16, metatarsus 26 mm.

Hab. Mt. Apo, South Mindanao. (one ♀.)

Type: no. 114, Mt. Apo, 3000 feet, November, 1903. Collected by John Waterstradt.

Mr. F. J. JACKSON, C.B., described a new species of *Macronyx*, from the Mau Downs, which he proposed to call

MACRONYX SHARPEI, n. sp.

Similis *M. croceo*, sed minor, torque nigro collari nullo, sed præpectore et pectore laterali nigro late striolatis, abdomine læte flavo pectore concolore, et rectricibus extimis oblique apicem versus albis nec albo terminatis, pogonio externo albo nec pallide flavo. Long. tot. 6·6 poll., culm. 0·7, alæ 3·5, caudæ 2·55, tarsi 1·2.

Hab. Mau Plateau, Equatorial Africa.

Dr. Sharpe had previously determined two specimens of this Pipit as the young of *Macronyx croceus*, but the series of eight specimens recently obtained by Mr. Jackson showed that it was quite distinct from the last-mentioned species.

Mr. Jackson named this species after his old friend Dr. Sharpe, who had for so many years assisted him in his ornithological work in East Africa.

Mr. OGILVIE-GRANT forwarded a letter which he had received from a dealer in Gloucestershire, announcing that a pair of Goshawks had been shot near a nest in that county.

The Meeting then proceeded to an exhibition of lantern-slides.

Mr. D. Seth-Smith showed photographic slides of the following birds, taken from living specimens in his aviaries:—Burrowing Owl (*Speotyto cunicularia*), Sacred Kingfisher (*Halcyon sancta*), Bronze-wing Pigeon (*Phaps chalcoptera*), Brush Bronze-wing (*Phaps elegans*, adult and nestling), Waxwing (*Ampelis garrulus*), Diamond Dove (*Geopelia cuneata*), Senegal Turtle-Dove (*Turtur senegalensis*), Ring-tailed Pigeon (*Columba caribbæa*), White-throated Finch (*Spermophila albigularis*), White-crowned Pigeon (*Columba leucocephala*), White-fronted Dove (*Leptoptila jamaicensis*), Australian Painted Quail (*Excalfactoria lineata*), Jungle Bush-Quail (*Perdicula asiatica*), White-headed Munia (*Munia maja*), and Yellow Sparrow (*Passer luteus*); and a nest with eggs of the Tataupa Tinamou (*Crypturus tataupa*).

Mr. E. S. Montagu exhibited some beautiful pictures of Lapwings on the nest, also approaching the latter, taken by Mr. W. Farren, of Cambridge;—(1) a Skylark on nest; (2) a Skylark standing by the nest; (3, 4) a Ring-Plover sitting; (5) a Ring-Plover about to cover young ones; (6) Stone-Curlew approaching nest; (7) Stone-Curlew about to settle on egg; (8) Stone-Curlew sitting.

Mr. Robert H. Read showed slides from various localities. Among the Scotch views were nests of the Osprey, Eyrie of the Golden Eagle, Heron's nest on a low hawthorn-bush, Great Skua with young and egg, &c. His Somersetshire slides included nest of Yellow Hammer with Cuckoo's egg. Views on the Thames included fine nests of the Sedge-Warbler, Reed-Warbler with Cuckoo's egg, Reed-Bunting, Wild Duck, &c. A few interesting Swedish slides taken by Mr. Read last year included a nest of the Red-throated Diver by the margin of a small pool, nest of the Osprey on the top of an exceedingly tall pine, nest of the White Wagtail with Cuckoo's egg under a stone on the margin of a lake, and an old nest of the Ring-Dove built on a squirrel's drey from which eggs of the Green Sandpiper had been taken the previous year.

Mr. G. W. Pearce showed slides of British birds and nests taken mostly near Ealing and Pinner. They included nest of Hedge-Sparrow with Cuckoo's egg, the same nest with the young unfledged Cuckoo, and the same Cuckoo fully fledged perched on a bough near the nest; views of Turtle-Dove's nest with eggs, unfledged young, and fully-fledged young respectively; nests with eggs of the Carrion-Crow and Kestrel, photographed with great difficulty, in the tops of tall trees; nests of Herring-Gull, Oyster-catcher, &c. from the Scilly Isles.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe showed a series of photographs taken during the recent voyage of the 'Emerald.' Among them were some of Cory's Gannet sitting on their eggs in Little Cayman Island.

Mr. Ruskin Butterfield sent for exhibition a series of lantern-slides (from photographs taken by Mr. H. E. Forrest, of Shrewsbury) of nests and eggs of Welsh birds, including those of a Kite built in a tall oak, 1903; three nests of Buzzard, *Buteo vulgaris*, two in trees and one on the face of a cliff; nest of Montagu's Harrier, near Lake Bala, July 1901; nest of Peregrine Falcon, cliff in Anglesea, May 1903; nest of Raven on face of cliff; Ringed Plover eggs laid on grass, May 1903; and nest and eggs of the Tufted Duck.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 18th of May, 1904, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m. Members intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Ogilvie-Grant.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

H. J. Pearson, R. Bowdler Sharpe, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant,
Chairman. *Editor.* *Acting-Secretary.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CVII.

THE hundred and sixth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of May, 1904.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. BIDWELL, J. L. BONHOTE, F. D. DREWITT, M.D., F. GILLETT, H. GOODCHILD, E. HARTERT, Ph.D., G. E. LODGE, E. S. MONTAGU, E. NEALE, M. J. NICOLL, T. PARKIN, F. G. PENROSE, M.D., T. DIGBY PIGOTT, C.B., D. SETH-SMITH, R. BOWDLER SHARPE, LL.D. (*Editor*), C. SWINHOE, W. B. TEGETMEIER.

Visitor: V. R. BALFOUR-BROWNE.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited a remarkable particoloured egg of the Common Pheasant; also an extraordinary hour-glass-shaped egg, brown in colour, and believed to be that of a Grouse, in spite of the fact that it was little more than an inch in length. It was probable that the peculiar shape of this egg was due to constriction while in the oviduct and not to the fusion of two separate eggs.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, Ph.D., sent for exhibition a remarkable new Pigeon, which he described as follows:—

MICROGOURA, n. gen.

Cere naked to the forehead, the naked, soft portion being about 22 to 23 mm. long from the end of the hard *rhamphotheca* to the feathering on the forehead, and about 13 mm. wide at base of forehead. Short, velvety feathers covering the lores, lateral bases of both mandibles, upper chin, and a line across the forehead. Sides of head and throat very sparsely feathered. A large, flat crest consisting of feathers with segregated barbs, rising from the occiput. Remiges hard and stiff. Tail short, rounded, consisting of twelve rectrices. Feet and legs naked up to just above the heel-joint; the metatarsus covered in front for about two-thirds with distinctly separated scutes, but the upper third smooth like the sides of the metatarsus, apparently soft in life. Habits terrestrial. The type was :—

MICROGOURA MEEKI, n. sp.

♂ ♀ *ad.* Bill chalky blue, tip black, lower mandible reddish. Short velvety feathers on chin, lores, sides of mouth, and a line across the forehead, black. Top of head and scanty feathers on sides of same pale greyish blue; crest-feathers pale bluish grey. Chest and mantle bluish grey. Lower back and rump greyish brown; upper tail-coverts dark brown with purplish and greenish reflections; primaries drab-brown, their inner webs with a greyish tinge; secondaries dull cinnamon, the inner webs more or less greyish brown. Wing-coverts greyish brown. Rectrices dark purple. Breast and abdomen bright rufous-cinnamon. Under tail-coverts glossy brownish black, with cinnamon edges. Under wing-coverts bright cinnamon. Iris dark brown; feet purplish red. Wing, ♂ 195 to 197, ♀ about 180 to 190 mm.; tail 100 to 105, bill from base of cere 34 to 35, metatarsus 60, middle toe with claw 40, hind toe with claw about 13 mm.

♀ like ♂, but the wing a little shorter.

Hab. Choiseul Island, Solomon Islands.

Type: ♂, Choiseul, 7. i. 1904. No. A. 1110, Tring Museum. Named after its discoverer, Mr. A. S. Meek.

The egg is cream-coloured and measures 43 × 31·3 mm.

Dr. Ernst Hartert exhibited nest and eggs, together with an adult pair, of *Pratincola dacotiæ*, Meade-Waldo, from the island of Fuertaventura. The nests were built in holes in stone walls or under stones, 40 to 50 cm. deep inside, and were composed of dry grass and herbs, lined with soft hair and pieces of wool. The nest was thus situated more like that of a *Saxicola* than that of a *Pratincola*, but the eggs were typical *Pratincola* eggs. The full clutch consisted of four eggs. They were pale bluish green, smooth and somewhat glossy, marked with pale reddish-brown spots, more frequent at, and sometimes confined to a zone round the larger end. They measured 18·1 × 14, 18·2 × 14, 18·4 × 14, and 18·6 × 14·1 mm.

The nest and eggs were discovered by Captain Polatzek.

Dr. Hartert also exhibited an egg of the Willow-Tit (*Parus montanus kleinschmidti*), the British subspecies of the Northern or Mountain Marsh-Tit. It was taken near Tunbridge Wells by Mr. Arthur Dixon. The eggs were much more heavily spotted than those of the Common British Marsh-Tit. The parent bird had been identified by Dr. Hartert.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild, Ph.D., sent for exhibition an example of a new *Pitohui*, which he described as follows: —

Pitohui dichrous monticola, n. subsp.

Similar to *P. dichrous dichrous*, but much paler rufous above and below, being of a cinnamon colour, instead of chestnut.

Mr. A. S. Meek had collected a series of this form on the Upper Aroa River in British New Guinea.

The type (No. A. 124: Avera, Aroa River, January 27, 1903) was exhibited, together with a specimen of *P. dichrous dichrous*.

Dr. Ernst Hartert exhibited and described the following new birds from the Philippine Islands:—

Dicæum apo, n. form.

Differs from *D. luzoniense*, Grant, in having the sides of the head glossy greenish black, instead of slaty, the vent and under tail-coverts brighter yellow, and the sides of abdomen darker olive-green. [*Type*. Mt. Apo, October 1903, collected by John Waterstradt.]

Hab. Mt. Apo, Mindanao.

DICÆUM BONGA, n. form.

Differs from *D. luzoniense* and *D. apo* in being smaller (wing only 47 mm. instead of 53 to 55 mm.). The sides of the head as dark or even darker than those of *D. apo*, while the upper surface seems to have a more steel-blue gloss. [*Type* ♂ ad. Bonga, Samar, June 18, 1896. J. Whitehead Coll.]

Hab. Samar. (*Cf.* Ibis, 1897, p. 239.)

Obs. Both these forms are doubtless subspecies of *D. luzoniense*, but the latter may also be only a representative form of another *Dicæum*. I therefore do not at present apply trinomial names to these forms.

STOPAROLA PANAYENSIS NIGRILORIS, n. subsp.

Similar to *St. panayensis panayensis*, but the wing is about 5 mm. shorter, the feathers on the lores black to the tips, not only at the bases; the feathers on the chin and upper throat less squamiform, the bases not so blackish; the lower abdomen and under tail-coverts creamy buff, not buffy white. [*Type* ♂ ad. October 1903, collected by John Waterstradt.]

Hab. Mt. Apo, Mindanao.

Dr. V. BIANCHI communicated the description of a new species of Bunting, named by him:—

EMBERIZA KOSLOWI, n. sp.

Emberiza nullæ speciei cognitæ sat affinis; sed ab omnibus speciebus subcaudalibus cinnamomeis abdomine fulvescenti-albido multo saturatioribus et loris mentoque castaneis, gula superciliisque latis longissimisque albis, et pileo, genis, auricularibusque nigris (♂) vel cinerascenti-brunneis (♀) valde differentibus primo visu distinguenda.

Hab. R. Re-tschu, Upper Mekong. [*Koslow*: typus in Mus. Petersburgensi.]

Dr. Sclater stated that since the meeting in February, when he had last attended the Club, he had passed a very pleasant month in the Canaries, at Orotava in Tenerife, and at Monte, above Las Palmas in Grand Canary. He had been unfortunately unable to visit more remote and less frequented localities in these islands, but, though making short excursions nearly every day and always on the look-out for birds, he had been much disappointed to find them so scarce. In the numerous gardens visited, where vegetable life of every kind was luxuriant, bird-life seemed to be almost unrepresented. An occasional Warbler might be detected, and pairs of the Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla melanope*) were often seen frequenting the water-tanks, but even the Sparrow was quite a rarity. In the open country the same was the case as regards small birds, but the Common Kite (*Milvus ictinus*) was often to be seen soaring about, and the Buzzard (*Buteo vulgaris*) and the Kestrel (*Tinnunculus alaudarius*) were not unfrequently observable. The natives sometimes attributed the scarcity of the ordinary Passerines to these Birds of Prey, but Dr. Sclater could not quite believe that this was the only reason. Swifts (*Cypselus apus*) and Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*) were also often to be seen in flocks, and an occasional Hoopoe was noticed.

The only person interested in Ornithology that Dr. Sclater came across in the Canaries was Mr. Rámon Gómez, the well-known "English Chemist" of Port Orotava. He had a small series of native birds' skins and a collection of Canarian birds' eggs, and in an aviary behind his house were living examples of several rare Canarian species—*Fringilla teydea*, *Erythrospiza githaginea*, *Columba laurivora*, and *C. bollei*.

Dr. Sclater had paid a visit to *The "Museo Canariense" at Las Palmas.* This Museum, which is stated in Brown's "Guide" to be the largest in the Canaries, is lodged in the topmost storey of the Town Hall (Municipio), and is principally devoted to Antiquities and Geology. The collection of native birds consists of about 120 mounted specimens arranged in four glass cases. They are mostly in bad condition, and in many cases not labelled, and sometimes incorrectly. Amongst them is a North-American Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) and a South-American Cuckoo (*Coccyzus pumilus*), which can hardly have been obtained in the Canaries. Of the peculiar Canarian forms there are but few representatives, for example, only one (imperfect) specimen of *Fringilla teydea*. It is very desirable that steps should be taken to reorganize this Collection.

Dr. Sclater was informed that there is a better collection of Canarian Birds at Laguna in Tenerife, now under the care of Dr. Adolfo Cabrera-Pinto, but originally made by Don Anatael Cabrera y Diaz, but unfortunately he had no opportunity of visiting it. For particulars of this collection, *cf.* Hartert, Wanderj Naturf. p. 115.

A discussion on the Avifauna of the Canary Islands took place, in which Dr. Drewitt, Mr. T. Parkin, and Dr. E. Hartert took part.

Captain Shelley described a new species of Lark from the Sudan as :—

Calendula dunni, n. sp.

Adult male. Upper parts rufous buff, shading into pale cinnamon on the wings and upper tail-coverts, the latter extending to the tip of the tail; forehead, crown, and entire mantle striped with bright cinnamon centres to the feathers; tail black, with the outer web of the feathers pale cinnamon, almost white underneath; the four longest primaries with a subterminal black shade not visible on the under surface; under wing-coverts white; sides of head and the under parts white, with a sandy-buff shade on the ear-coverts and sides of neck, crop, and sides of body. Bill, tarsi, feet, and claws apparently flesh-colour in life. Total length 5·9 inches, culmen 0·55, wing 3·3, tail 2·1, tarsus 0·8.

Adult female. Similar to the male, but with the bill shorter and stouter. Total length 5·7 inches, culmen 0·5, wing 3·15, tail 2·1, tarsus 0·8.

Young. Differs in having no stripes on the upper parts; feathers of the crown with blackish, subterminal, crescent-shaped spots; mantle and inner portion of wings uniform pale cinnamon; remainder of wing pale dusky brown, with broad buff edges to the feathers; tail black, with the centre feathers cinnamon and all the others edged with buff; under parts white, with a rufous-buff shade across the crop, which, like the cheeks, is mottled with blackish spots. Total length 3·8 inches, culmen 0·3, wing 2·5, tail 1·1, tarsus 0·7.

Obs. The species is here placed in *Calendula* as it has all the characters of that genus mentioned in my "key" to the genera of the Alaudidæ (B. Afr. iii. pp. 16, 17); but it differs from the type of that genus (*C. crassirostris*) in having the end of the bill compressed and sharply pointed.

Hab. Ogageh, Sudan, Nov. 20, 1902.

Named after its discoverer, Major W. H. Dunn.

Colonel Rippon sent for exhibition some apparently new species of birds from the Southern Chin Hills in Burma. He proposed to call them

ÆTHOPYGA VICTORIÆ, n. sp.

Similis *Æ. horsfieldi,* sed nitore viridi pilei et faciei saturatiore, potius cyanescenti-chalybeo, distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 6·0 poll., culm. 3·9, alæ 2·0, caudæ 2·5, tarsi 0·55.

Hab. Mt. Victoria, S. Chin Hills, March 12, 1904.

UROCICHLA OATESI, n. sp.

Similis *U. reptatæ,* Bingham, sed subtus albescens, maculis paucis nigricantibus notata, abdomine albido, minime cinereo; regione parotica brunnea, pileo concolore, minime cinerea distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 4·5 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 1·9, caudæ 1·55, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Mt. Victoria, March 12, 1904.

TROCHALOPTERUM HOLERYTHROPS, n. sp.

T. simile *T. erythrolæmati,* sed fascia grisea superciliari nulla, capite undique castaneo, collo laterali maculis nigris marmorato, præpectore fulvo cinnamomeo lavato et maculis nigris multis ornato distinguendum: rostro saturate corneo, mandibulæ basi pallidiore; pedibus corneo-brunneis; iride pallide flava. Long. tot. circa 10·5 poll., culm. 1·05, alæ 4·0, caudæ 4·25, tarsi 1·5.

Hab. Mt. Victoria, March 15, 1904.

ÆGITHALISCUS SHARPEI, n. sp.

Similis *Æ. bonvaloti,* sed regione parotica saturate brunnea nec postice cinnamomea, et torque collari brunneo distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 4·4 poll., culm. 0 3, alæ 2·2, caudæ 2·0, tarsi 0·65.

Hab. Mt. Victoria, March 25, 1904.

STACHYRIS BINGHAMI, n. sp.

Similis *S. chryseæ,* sed regione parotica sordide cinerascente nec aureo-olivacea, rostro brunneo, mandibula pallidiore, pedibus flavis, iride rubescenti-ochracea, facile distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 4·8 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 1·2, caudæ 1·9, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Mt. Victoria, March 14, 1904.

SITTA VICTORIÆ, n. sp.

Similis *S. montanæ,* La Touche, sed gutture et gastræo medio albidis, colli lateribus et corporis lateribus cinnamomeo-castaneis; pileo cinereo, dorso concolore; fronte basali et superciliis albis. Long. tot. circa 4·6 poll., culm. 0·55, alæ 2·65, caudæ 1·6, tarsi 0 65.

Hab. Mt. Victoria, March 22, 1904.

Mr. M. J. NICOLL exhibited a specimen of Cetti's Warbler (*Cettia cetti*), which had been shot by a gardener-boy at Battle, in Sussex, on the 12th of May. It was seen hopping about in some laurels, and uttering such a curious note, that the boy was induced to fetch his gun and shoot it. The bird was then sent to Mr. Bristowe at St. Leonard's, and was seen in the flesh by Mr. Nicoll. On dissection it proved to be a male bird. This was the first authentic occurrence of Cetti's Warbler in Great Britain.

Mr. NICOLL likewise exhibited an adult male *Motacilla borealis,* which had been shot on Camber Marsh, near Winchelsea, Sussex, on May 2, 1904, and had been sent to Mr. Bristowe of St. Leonard's. This was the third occurrence of the species recorded from the British Isles.

Mr. J. L. BONHOTE exhibited, on behalf of Dr. N. F. Ticehurst, who was unable to be present, a pair of the

Spotted Sandpiper (*Tringoides macularius*), which had been shot on the 5th of May, 1904, in a ditch between Lydd and Brookland in Romney Marsh. The birds were sent to Mr. Bristowe at St. Leonard's, and were examined in the flesh, when still perfectly fresh, by Dr. Ticehurst on the 7th of May. This was the first properly authenticated record of the species in the County of Kent.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 15th of June, 1904, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M. Members intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Ogilvie-Grant.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	R. BOWDLER SHARPE,	W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT,
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Acting-Secretary.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CVIII.

The hundred and seventh Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of June, 1904.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, W. E. de Winton (*Treasurer*), F. D. Drewitt, M.D., A. H. Evans, F. Finn, H. Goodchild, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, G. E. Lodge, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, E. S. Montagu, H. Munt, M. J. Nicoll, T. Parkin, C. E. Pearson, F. Penrose, M.D., W. P. Pycraft, Hon. N. C. Rothschild, Hon. Walter Rothschild, D.Sc., M.P., H. Scherren, F. C. Selous, F. Sharman, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D. (*Editor*), D. Seth-Smith, H. F. Witherby.

Visitors: Hon. F. R. Henley, Dr. Jordan, J. Parkin.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild, D.Sc., exhibited and made remarks on a series of Barn-Owls as follows:—

"I have brought these Barn-Owls to illustrate a few of the features of geographical variation in one species, and at the same time to endeavour to show how much more interesting the study of Ornithology is made if we take into account geographical variation, however slight, instead of uniting under one head all forms which are not sufficiently differentiated to be considered species or subspecies in the widest sense.

[*June 25th*, 1904.]

Smithsonian Institution

"This question has been rendered more especially interesting by the recent publication of two Manuals of Palæarctic Birds, one by Mr. Dresser and the other by Dr. Ernst Hartert. It is in the light of these books that I will treat of this thorny question. Mr. Dresser has dealt with his subject throughout on ancient lines, and if that were all, no one could object, but only express regret. It has been stated, however, that Mr. Dresser's book is one for the 'field ornithologist,' while Dr. Hartert's is one for the cabinet student only; and this assertion at once puts a most mischievous interpretation on the different treatment of their common subject. It often happens that two only slightly or scarcely different races of a bird have totally different habits; for example, the British Robin (*Erithacus rubecula melophilus*) and the European Robin (*Erithacus rubecula rubecula*). In England the Robin lives in gardens and orchards, sings loudly, is quite tame, nests in walls and outhouses, and is, in fact, almost a domesticated species; while on the Continent it is shy and sings little, nests in low trees, and only frequents woods and spinneys. In some places, too, it is a strictly mountain species. Thus I maintain that often apparently contradictory biological notes are due to the observations made by 'field ornithologists' on two different races of the same species, and that this is a cogent reason for distinguishing local forms however closely allied. Mr. Dresser, in his book, states that he has not thought it necessary to take into consideration any race described under trinomials. This has led him into at least two most ludicrous errors. He states that *Aluco flammea ernesti* from Sardinia is the ordinary dark continental race of the Barn-Owl, while, as a matter of fact, it is the lightest of all the races of *Aluco flammea*, being almost albinistic; and he further says that the recently-described form of the Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus canariensis*) from the Canary Islands is indistinguishable from the ordinary SHORT-EARED OWL (*Asio accipitrinus*) of Europe. This is a proof of how far preconceived prejudices can lead even a veteran ornithologist to make rash statements.

"The forms I exhibit are:—

"1. Eight specimens of *Aluco flammea flammea* from Geinsheim, Germany; Stuhlweissenburg and Ternes Kuhn in Hungary; and Chailey and Stanmer Park in Sussex.

"2. Seven specimens of *Aluco flammea kirchhoffi* from Tenby, Wales; Tring, Long Marston, and St. Alban's in Hertfordshire; and Balcombe in Sussex.

"3. Six specimens of *Aluco flammea ernesti* from Ilbanno, Bari, Seni, and Cagliari, in Sardinia.

"4. Five specimens of *Aluco flammea delicatula* from Savu Island, Queensland, and Southern Australia.

"5. One example of *Aluco flammea bargei* from the Island of Curaçao.

"6. One example of *Aluco flammea furcata* from the Island of Jamaica.

"7. Three specimens of *Aluco flammea contempta* from Ecuador.

"8. Two examples of *Aluco flammea punctatissima* from Albemarle Island, Galapagos Islands.

"9. One *Aluco flammea insularis* from Cape Verd Islands.

"10. One *Aluco flammea thomensis* from the Island of St. Thomé, Bight of Benin.

"11. Two *Aluco flammea nigrescens* from the Island of St. Vincent, West Indies.

"It has already been stated, and may be again, that, as the dark continental form of Barn-Owl has often been taken in Great Britain, it is our Barn-Owl; but this is not so, for the dark Barn-Owls taken in this country, of which I here exhibit two specimens to-night, have all been caught on the south, east, or north-east coasts. The very rare instances of dark Barn-Owls taken inland have always been recorded from such places as might easily be reached from the above-named coasts. This suggests that all the dark Barn-Owls caught in Britain have been mere stragglers blown over from the Continent.

"I now come to the *nomenclature* of these races or subspecies, and the objection of some ornithologists to *trinomials.* I may at least point out the object, and to my mind great advantage, of trinomials, even if I should not at present make any converts. NOMENCLATURE was invented to make the reference to species or families as easy as possible; surely, therefore, it ought to be made short and simple. I think, therefore, that any unbiassed person ought to perceive that it is easier to remember and shorter to write 'ALUCO FLAMMEA NIGRESCENS' than to call this form '*The dark insular race of* ALUCO FLAMMEA *from the Island of St. Vincent.*'"

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD also exhibited a number of Ratite eggs laid, in 1904, by birds in his possession. They consisted of—

4 eggs laid by two female birds of *Casuarius unappendiculatus*;
2 eggs of *Casuarius papuanus.*

These six eggs were laid in the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park.

2 eggs of *Dromæus novæ-hollandiæ*;
2 eggs of *Rhea americana*;
2 eggs of *Rhea darwini.*

All these were laid in the park at Tring. Thirteen young Emus were hatched, and eleven are doing well. The only male *Rhea* (an albino of *R. americana*) which had, as yet, begun to sit, had six of its own and four eggs of *R. darwini* placed under it, but it was disturbed by some cart-horses and forsook the eggs.

The Hon. N. CHARLES ROTHSCHILD exhibited some skins of rare birds collected by himself, the Hon. Francis R. Henley, and Mr. A. F. R. Wollaston in Egypt and the Soudan:—

2 *Iyngipicus obsoletus* (Wagler).
1 *Eremomela griseoflava*, Heuglin.
11 *Anthoscopus punctifrons* (Sund.).
5 *Mesopicus goertan*, var. *poicephalus* (Swainson).
2 *Lanius leuconotus*, C. L. Brehm.
5 *Cotile minor*, Cab.
5 *Caprimulgus nubicus*, Heuglin.
1 *Myrmecocichla melanura* (Temm.).

The exhibitors stated that, as far as they knew, the specimens of *Myrmecocichla melanura* (Temm.) and *Caprimulgus nubicus*, Heuglin, were the only ones secured during recent years in Egypt.

The Hon. N. CHARLES ROTHSCHILD recorded that he had observed in Dover Harbour, on the 18th of April last, a bird which he considered to have been an example of the Yellow-legged Herring-Gull (*Larus cachinnans*). The bird in question was flying in company with several of the common Herring-Gull (*L. argentatus*) and passed unusually close to the observers. The bird was noticed to have orange legs, not only by the recorder, but by his brother and the Hon. F. R. Henley.

Mr. MONTAGU exhibited an interesting series of skins of the Lesser Redpoll (*Acanthis rufescens*) from Norfolk, together with nests and eggs. Some of the male Redpolls appeared to have nested without donning the characteristic rosy plumage of the breast.

Mr. CHARLES PEARSON exhibited the nest and eggs of a Twite (*Acanthis flavirostris*) from North Devon. It had been taken by Mr. W. H. Hine on the 3rd of May last at Westward Ho, the nest having been placed on the ground among heather.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT described a new species of

Shrike-Tit collected by Mr. C. B. Rickett in China, as follows :—

PTERYTHIUS RICKETTI, n. sp.

Pteruthius æralatus, Rickett & La Touche (nec Tick.), Ibis, 1898, p. 330.

Ptererythrius æralatus, Grant (nec Tick.), Ibis, 1900, p. 584 [♀].

Adult male. Differs from the male of *P. æralatus* in having the ear-coverts very dark grey, instead of black; the chin, throat, and chest dark grey, not lavender-grey; and in lacking any trace of the white stripe below the eye and ear-coverts which is so conspicuous a character in *P. æralatus.* Total length ca. 6·5 inches, wing 3·4, tail 2·5, tarsus 1·1.

Adult female. Differs from the female of *P. æralatus* in having the chin, throat, and upper breast grey, instead of whitish buff. Total length 6·5 inches, wing 3·3, tail 2·4, tarsus 1·1.

Hab. South China: Kuatun, Foh-kien, and Ching-tung, S. Yunnan.

Mr. GRANT also described a new species of Laughing-Thrush from Karennee, collected by Col. R. G. Wardlaw-Ramsay :—

TROCHALOPTERUM RAMSAYI, n. sp.

Adult male and female. Most nearly allied to *T. melanostigma* (Blyth), but differing in having the chestnut of the chin and throat continued over the entire breast and belly, gradually decreasing in intensity towards the vent. In this respect the present species approaches *T. peninsulæ*, Sharpe. Iris deep chocolate, bill black, legs pinkish brown.

♂. Total length about 10·0 inches, wing 4·0, tail 4·5, tarsus 1·5.

♀. Total length about 10·0 inches, wing 4·1, tail 4·5, tarsus 1·6.

Hab. Karennee, extending to the pine-forests in the Salween District.

The types of the allied form *T. melanostigma* [Blyth, J. A. Soc. Beng. xxiv. p. 268 (1855)] were procured on Mt. Mooleyit, and from thence this species ranges northward along the great watershed between the Salween and Mekong rivers. It has also been procured by Col. Rippon to the east of Fort Stedman to the north of Karennee, a distribution which is somewhat remarkable.

Colonel Bingham (*cf.* Ibis, 1903, p. 588) had united the Karennee and Mooleyit birds, and likewise included *T. peninsulæ*, Sharpe, under the title of *T. melanostigma.* He has, however, recently re-examined the large series in the Museum Collection, and quite agrees with me that the three forms are distinct.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe described three new species of African birds, as follows:—

Haplopelia seimundi, n. sp.

H. schistaceo-nigricans, remigibus extus lætioribus; fronte et facie laterali margaritaceo-cinereis, illo albidiore; gula pure alba; pileo, collo et interscapulio clarius schistaceis, cupreo et bronzino-viridi micantibus: subtus margaritaceo-cinerea; præpectore et pectore cum pectoris lateribus paullo saturatioribus, illo vix colore metallico viridi lavato, abdomine imo albo; subcaudalibus pallide margaritaceo-cinereis, anguste albido fimbriatis; subalaribus saturate schistaceis; alis infra nigricantibus, intus cinereo lavatis; cauda dimidiatim basaliter nigra, parte tertia apicali cinerea, rectricibus medianis saturate schistaceis. Long. tot. 9·4 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 6·0, caudæ 3·2, tarsi 1·0, dig. med. 1·15.

Hab. Banterbari, Fernando Po, March 9, 1904 (*E. Seimund*).

Obs. This species must be closely allied to *H. principalis*, but there is no vinaceous tinge on the breast: the under tail-coverts are pale cinereous.

Haplopelia jacksoni, n. sp.

H. seimundi similis, et subcaudalibus pallide cinereis, sed abdomine imo isabellino, et colli lateribus, præpectore et pectore summo vinaceo lavatis nec cinereis distinguenda. Long. tot. 9·3 poll., culm. 0·65, alæ 5·7, caudæ 3·05, tarsi 1·0.

Hab. Ruwenzori (*coll. F. J. Jackson*).

EUPRINODES LEUCOGASTER, n. sp.

E. schistaceus: similis *A. sharpei* et *A. lopezi*, et rectricibus exterioribus quoque pure albis, sed pectore et abdomine totis pure albis, distinguenda. Long. tot. circa 4·0 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·0, caudæ 1·6, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Mt. Clarence, Fernando Po, Feb. 27, 1904 (*E. Seimund*).

Mr. F. J. JACKSON, C.B., described a new species of Sun-bird as

CYANOMITRA ALINÆ, n. sp.

C. similis *C. verticali*, sed dorso aureo-olivaceo, tectricibus alarum minimis metallice prasinis, gutture toto metallice purpureo, nec chalybeo vel viridescente, pectore sordide fumoso, nec cineraceo, abdomine et subcaudalibus viridescenti - olivaceo lavatis distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·1 poll., culm. 1·1, alæ 2·4, caudæ 1·75, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Ruwenzori, Feb. 12, 1902 (*coll. F. J. J.*).

Mr. M. J. NICOLL exhibited and made remarks on some interesting birds met with by him during the recent voyage of the 'Valhalla,' viz. :—

"CHRYSOTIS CAYMANENSIS, Cory.

"This species was very abundant on Grand Cayman, and was breeding at the time of my visit in March, but the species was confined to the tall trees near the north side of the island. Neither Dr. Lowe nor Dr. Bowdler Sharpe met with the species in February, but Sir Frederic Johnstone noticed a pair in the big trees near the Sound. Dr. Sharpe procured some living specimens from a native.

"VIREO CAYMANENSIS, Cory.

"This Greenlet is peculiar to the island of Grand Cayman, and I obtained two specimens.

"EMPIDONAX MINIMUS.

"I shot one specimen on Grand Cayman. This is believed to be the first record of the species in the West Indies.

"DENDRŒCA CRAWFORDI, n. sp.

"Nearly allied to *Dendrœca vitellina,* Cory, but larger and paler in colour. The olive streak through the eye is paler and is not continued behind the eye. The dark olive patch on the ear-coverts and the olive markings on the sides of the breast, characteristic of *D. vitellina,* are absent in *D. crawfordi,* which has the upper parts bright yellowish green, with the forehead and rump somewhat paler. Superciliary stripe and underparts bright yellow. Total length 4·7 inches, wing 2·35, tail 2·15, culmen 0·6, tarsus 0·7.

"Sexes alike.

"*Hab.* Little Cayman Island, W. Indies.

"This species is named after the Earl of Crawford, to whom I am indebted for two most delightful voyages as naturalist on board the 'Valhalla.' Lord Crawford has presented the collections made during his recent voyage to the British Museum.

"VIREO LAURÆ, n. sp.

"Similar to *V. calidris,* but smaller and with the colours more intense; *no wash of buff colour on the face*; superciliary stripe *white,* washed with grey, and separated from the crown by a broad black streak. Crown very dark, almost slaty. Mantle olive-brown; rump paler and washed with green; wings and tail strongly washed with green, and otherwise darker than in *V. calidris.* Moustachial streaks black; a black streak through the eye. Ear-coverts grey, washed faintly with greenish yellow; chin and throat pure white, as also the middle of the abdomen. Two irregular greenish patches on each side of the throat and upper breast, almost forming a collar; flanks washed with grass-green; axillaries and under wing-coverts primrose-yellow, the crissum and under tail-coverts slightly paler.

"In this species the 2nd and 4th primaries are equal, and the 1st is much shorter than the 5th. The bill is shorter and more slender than in *V. calidris.* The upper mandible is dark brown, the lower one much paler. Total length 5·20 inches, wing 3·0, culmen ·80, tarsi ·75.

"*Hab.* Island of Grenada, West Indies.

"Named in honour of Laura, Countess of Wilton."

Mr. Nicoll drew the attention of the Club to the fact that announcements of what took place at the *réunion* of the B. O. C. in May had been communicated to the daily press immediately after the last meeting, and before the publication of the 'Bulletin.' He remarked that if this practice were continued, it would be impossible to persuade naturalists to allow their specimens to be exhibited.

Several members spoke in strong terms of this breach of confidence, and the Chairman hoped that after the decided expression of the Meeting, the practice of sending unofficial paragraphs to the press would be discontinued.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild proposed that, during the next Session of the Club, one or more evenings should be set apart for the discussion of nomenclature, geographical distribution, &c., in which so many members had that day expressed an interest.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 19th of October, 1904, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street ; the Dinner at 7 p.m. Members intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Ogilvie-Grant.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater,	R. Bowdler Sharpe,	W. R. Ogilvie-Grant.
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Acting-Secretary.*

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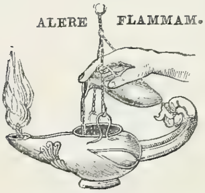
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PREFACE.

The Meetings of the British Ornithologists' Club held during the 13th Session have been in every way remarkably satisfactory. The number of members and visitors attending the meetings has been larger than in any previous year; there has likewise been no falling off in the number of new and rare birds that have been exhibited, or in the interesting communications that have been read.

The appointment of a Sub-Committee to report on the movements in England and Wales of our commoner migratory birds is one of the most important events of the year. Thanks to the energy that has been displayed by this Sub-Committee and to the assistance of numerous correspondents in all parts of the country, a very fairly complete record of the arrival of the Spring-migrants has been kept and the full report, when published, should prove of great value and of general interest.

It is satisfactory to note that the efforts made to preserve the few remaining pairs of Kites in Wales have this year been crowned with success. Thanks to the incessant watch kept over the eggs and young, two pairs of young birds got safely off.

We have to record with regret that death has deprived the Club of several well-known Members, viz.:—Dr. W. T. Blanford, F.R.S., Lt.-Col. L. H. Irby, Mr. E. Neale, and Mr. E. Cavendish Taylor, who was one of the original members of the 'Ibis.'

(Signed) W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT,
Editor.

September 11*th*, 1905.

RULES

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

(*As amended, 20th April,* 1898.)

I. This Club was founded for the purpose of facilitating the social intercourse of Members of the British Ornithologists' Union. Any Member of that Union can become a Member of this Club on payment (to the Treasurer) of an entrance fee of *Five Shillings* and a subscription of *Five Shillings* for the current Session. Resignation of the Union involves resignation of the Club.

II. Members who have not paid their subscriptions before the last Meeting of the Session, shall cease, *ipso facto,* to be Members of the Club, but may be reinstated on payment of arrears, *and* a new entrance fee.

III. Members of the British Ornithologists' Union may be introduced as Visitors at the Meetings of the Club, but every Member of the Club who introduces a Member of the B. O. U. as a Visitor (to dinner or to the Meeting afterwards) shall pay *One Shilling* to the Treasurer, *on each occasion.*

IV. The Club shall meet, as a rule, on the Third Wednesday in every Month, from October to June inclusive, at such hour and place as may be arranged by the Committee. At these Meetings papers upon ornithological subjects shall be read, specimens exhibited, and discussion invited.

V. An Abstract of the Proceedings of the B. O. C. shall be printed as soon as possible after each Meeting, under the title of the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' and distributed gratis to every Member *who has paid his subscription.* Copies of this Bulletin shall be published and sold at *One Shilling* each.

VI. The affairs of this Club shall be managed by a Committee, to consist of the Editors of 'The Ibis,' the Editor of the 'Bulletin,' and the Secretary and Treasurer, *ex officio*; with three other Members, one of whom shall be changed every year. The Committee shall have power to make and alter Bye-laws.

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ERRATA,

Page 72, line 2, *for* Hove, Sussex, *read* Hooe, Sussex.
Page 72, line 14, *for* Kaui River *read* Kain River.

BULLETIN
OF THE
BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

Smithsonian Institution
JAN 31
National Museum

No. CIX.

The hundred and eighth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 19th of October, 1904.

Previous to the Dinner a meeting of the Committee was held, at which the following officers and members of the Committee were elected for the coming Session:—

P. L. Sclater, F.R.S., *Chairman.*
W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, *Editor.*
H. F. Witherby, *Secretary and Treasurer.*
A. H. Evans.
H. J. Pearson, *Vice-Chairman.*
Howard Saunders, *Vice-Chairman.*
R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D.
} *Members of the Committee.*

It was agreed that it would be desirable to have an alphabetical list of new genera and species of Birds published every year, and that the Committee of the B. O. C. should be empowered to arrange how this might best be done.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, R. A. Crowley, J. C. Crowley, H. E. Dresser, F. D. Drewitt, E. V. Earle, F. W. Frohawk, F. Gillett, W. R. Ogilvie-

Grant (*Editor*), E. Hartert, Ph.D., G. E. Lodge, Lt.-Col. A. P. Loyd, Lieut. H. Lynes, R.N., H. Munt, T. H. Neuman, M. J. Nicoll, T. Parkin, Theed Pearse, C. E. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, M.D., A. E. Price, W. P. Pycraft, F. R. Ratcliff, C. B. Rickett, Hon. Walter Rothschild, Ph.D., M.P., Howard Saunders, F. Sharman, D. Seth-Smith, C. B. Ticehurst, H. M. Wallis, J. I. S. Whitaker, E. A. Wilson, M.D., H. F. Witherby (*Secretary and Treasurer*), W. H. Workman.

Visitors: T. F. Althaus, C. E. Fagan.

It was proposed by Mr. Howard Saunders, seconded by the Hon. Walter Rothschild, and carried unanimously:—

"That the best thanks of the British Ornithologists' Club be offered to Dr. Bowdler Sharpe for the valuable services which he has rendered by editing the 'Bulletin' since its commencement in 1892, coupled with an expression of regret that he should have found it necessary to resign the Editorship."

The Chairman then delivered the following Address:—

Brother Members of the B. O. C.,—

I have the pleasure of offering you a few remarks on the occasion of the opening of the 13th Session of the British Ornithologists' Club, which holds its 108th meeting to-night.

Perhaps the most interesting event that has recently occurred connected with Ornithology has been the safe return to this country of the two British Antarctic Expeditions, both of which have been accompanied by naturalists who have paid special attention to bird-life, and under whose superintendence good collections of birds have been obtained. The 'Scotia' was the first to arrive, and, as we are informed, has brought home an excellent series of some five or six hundred skins. These have been sent by Mr. W. S. Bruce to the Edinburgh Museum, to be worked out by our friend Mr. Eagle Clarke. With him will be associated Mr. Alastair

Ross, who accompanied the expedition, and will supply the necessary field-notes. The collection formed by the Naturalists of the 'Discovery,' and placed in the British Museum, is not quite so large, containing only about 120 skins, besides eggs, skeletons, and spirit-specimens. It will be studied and reported upon by Dr. Edward Wilson, the assistant-surgeon and naturalist. It is obvious that the 'Discovery' having had its headquarters much further south, had not the same opportunities enjoyed by the 'Scotia'; as bird-life, so far as regards variety of species, rapidly diminishes in the extreme south. There is no doubt, however, that when these two collections have been properly worked out we shall have a much better knowledge of the Antarctic Ornis than we at present possess.

Proceeding now to the more habitable parts of the globe, I think we may say that the Ethiopian Region, as has generally been the case of late years, has received the largest share of attention from recent ornithological explorers. Mr. Boyd Alexander has disappeared into the recesses of Northern Nigeria, and though we have not heard much from him since he left the Benué in April last for the interior, he has, no doubt, with his usual energy, devoted much of his time and attention to the birds of that country. Mr. G. L. Bates has continued his researches on the birds of the German colony of Cameroon, and, as those who read 'The Ibis' must well know, in a most efficient manner. Mr. Bates, who has recently been in this country for a few weeks, on his way home to his friends in America, is not only an energetic collector, but also an accurate observer, and has furnished Dr. Bowdler Sharpe with many excellent field-notes on the birds of Efulen. Passing to the other side of Africa, we find our indefatigable friend, Mr. F. J. Jackson, C.B., as busy as usual upon the bird-life of British East Africa. At present he is putting together his notes and finishing the extremely valuable series of papers with which he has enriched the pages of 'The Ibis.' In the course of a few weeks he will return to his duties in the Protectorate, and will no doubt be engaged in fresh researches on our favourite subject. In the vast British dominions which occupy the southern part of the African Continent many active workers have lately been occupied with ornithology. Indeed so much devotion is paid to this branch of zoology in Cape Colony and the adjoining countries, that, as already announced, it has been resolved to form a South-African Ornithologists' Union, and active steps have already been taken to start a journal as the organ of the new association. We must offer our best congratulations to our South-African brethren upon their energy and wish them every sort of success. Mr. W. L. Sclater, I may mention, who is one of the leaders in the new scheme, having finished for the press the fourth volume of the 'Birds of South Africa' (commenced but unfortunately not finished by his friend the late Dr. Stark), has lately paid a flying visit to Northern Rhodesia, in order to establish a collector there for the investigation of that little-known district. Extracts from some of Mr. Sclater's letters shall be read to you presently, and will show you how easy it is now-a-days to reach places that a short time ago were practically inaccessible.

Coming back to our own country, we are glad to see Mr. Nicoll again amongst us after his recent successful foray in the West Indies. We are also pleased to hear that Mr. Eagle Clarke has safely returned from another "month's imprisonment" in the lighthouse on the Flannan Islands. I think that we must all allow that no man has endured more hardships in the cause of science, or attained more successful results, than Mr. Eagle Clarke. Among the ornithological books lately published we may name the fourth part of Mr. Alfred J. North's 'Nests and Eggs of Australian Birds' as worthy of special attention, as is likewise Captain Hutton and Mr. Drummond's useful Handbook on the Animals of New Zealand. These works show that in the Australian Colonies, as well as in South Africa, ornithology is by no means neglected. The new volume on the 'Fauna of the North-west Highlands and Skye,' belonging to Mr. Harvie-Brown's well-known series, will be likewise favourably received by students of British ornithology. Nor must I omit to offer a few words of thanks to the founder of the great Zoological Workshop at Tring, who, in conjunction with his worthy assistants, is always pouring forth a full stream of contributions to our much-loved science. Their well-known organ 'Novitates Zoologicæ' is now in its eleventh volume and requires no herald to sound its praises. May it long continue to give us an account of the rich collections accumulated at Tring, and of the excellent results derived from the study of them by Mr. Rothschild, Dr. Hartert, and Dr. Jordan.

Amongst other accessions recently acquired at Tring is an extensive series of birds from the northern islands of the Solomon group, including Bougainville and Choiseul, transmitted by that excellent collector Mr. Meek. A large collection of Angolan birds has also been lately received from Dr. Ansorge, and a second is expected to follow shortly. These will serve to supplement Professor Barboza du Bocage's 'Ornithologie d'Angola,' which is at present our principal work on the avifauna of that district.

In conclusion, I must not forget to express our sense of the great loss that has befallen Ornithology by the premature death of Carlo, Freiherr von Erlanger, who had just commenced to work out the enormous collections which he had lately formed in Abyssinia and Somaliland, and whose life was so wholly devoted to our branch of science.

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, Ph.D., exhibited two very interesting new Kingfishers, which he described as follows:—

HALCYON BOUGAINVILLEI, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Head and hind-neck to the upper back bright orange-cinnamon, a narrow semicircular line of bright blue crossing the nape and extending to the eyes, another broader blue line from the base of the under mandible to the sides of the neck. Middle portion of back, as well as the scapulars, upper wing-coverts, tail, and outer webs of the remiges of a rich deep (cyanine) blue. Broad line along the middle of lower back, rump, and upper tail-coverts turquoise-blue. Inner webs of all the remiges, first primary, and tips of the outer webs of the rest of the primaries dull brownish-black. Under surface, including the under wing-coverts, light cinnamon-orange, a little paler on the throat. Bill and feet coral-red ; iris brown. Wing 130, tail 93, bill 47 to 50, metatarsus 21 to 22 mm.

♀ *ad.* Like the male, except that the scapulars and middle portion of the back are of a greenish-olive-brown tinged with cinnamon, instead of blue.

Type No. A. 1770, Bougainville Island, 11.v.1904. Collected by Mr. A. S. Meek.

Examples of both sexes were procured on Bougainville, Northern Solomon Islands. This remarkable Kingfisher is entirely different from any species hitherto described.

HALCYON OWSTONI, n. sp.

♂. Crown of head dull green, forehead and margins of most of the feathers white. Ear-coverts dull green, hinder portion blackish. Underside and a band across the hind-neck white, divided by a narrow semicircular black line. Feathers of the chest with narrow brown tips, which are probably absent in very old birds. Scapulars and upper back dull olive-green, lower back and rump bluish-green. Upper wing-coverts dull green with narrow whitish tips, which no doubt soon wear off, and may be absent in very old birds. Entire first primary and inner webs of all the quills except the innermost secondaries, blackish-brown, outer webs and innermost secondaries almost entirely bluish-green. Tail above bluish-green, below dull blackish-brown. Upper mandible and tip of lower blackish, basal portion of lower mandible whitish. Wing 111 to 113, tail 78, bill 43 to 46, tarsus about 17 mm.

Type No. X. 3. A, Asuncion Island, Northern Mariannes, 16.i.1904.

Mr. Alan Owston, after whom this interesting Kingfisher is named, sent two specimens from Asuncion (Assumption) Island, one of the northern Mariannes. One is marked ♂, the other has no sex indicated. Both appear to be adult, though not very old birds.

In colour this species agrees almost entirely with the much smaller *Todirhamphus tutus* from the Society Islands, but the bill is not so flattened and resembles that of *Halcyon chloris*, though somewhat wider. From the various subspecies of the *H. chloris*-group, of which it may be a very specialized form, it differs principally in the great amount of white on the crown.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild also exhibited a specimen of a rare Bird of Paradise (*Paryphephorus duivenbodei*), obtained by Mr. A. E. Pratt at a place called Foula, situated at an elevation of 4000 feet, in the mountains of British New Guinea.

He likewise exhibited all three known specimens of the extraordinary Lory *Charmosyna atrata*, and remarked that the type was a male and the two others females, if the coloration of the rump was indicative of sexual difference, as in *Ch. stellæ*.

Mr. Rothschild further exhibited a new form of *Pitta*, together with its egg, from the Solomon Islands, and described it as follows:—

Pitta anerythra pallida, n. subsp.

Differs from *Pitta anerythra anerythra*, of Isabel and Choiseul Islands, in being paler on the underside and in having the crown of the head much blacker, the chestnut-brown colour being more restricted or sometimes absent.

Type No. A. 1664, ♂, Bougainville Island, 26.iv.1904. Collected by Mr. A. S. Meek.

The specimens sent from Bougainville by Mr. Meek vary somewhat in the amount of chestnut on the nape, but it is, however, always more restricted than in *P. a. anerythra*.

An egg found on Bougainville in May is creamy white, marked all over with short lines and scribblings of brownish-red and some underlying greyish-mauve spots. It measures 30·8 by 25 mm.

Dr. E. HARTERT exhibited an example of a new species of *Dicæum*, which he described as follows :—

DICÆUM NIGRILORE, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Crown from forehead to nape dark olive-yellow. Lores, stripe under the eyes, and ear-coverts blackish. Back sepia-brown with a faint olive tinge; lower rump and upper tail-coverts dark olive-yellow. Lesser wing-coverts like the back, median and greater series with olive-yellow edges. Primary-coverts uniform blackish-brown. Remiges very dark brown, with the inner webs edged with white, except at the tip; inner secondaries bordered externally with olive-yellow. Tail-feathers deep brown with narrow olive-yellowish outer edges. Under-surface pale ashy grey indistinctly striped with white ; throat and middle of abdomen whitish ; flanks, vent, and under tail-coverts wax-yellow. Under wing-coverts and axillaries white. Bill black, legs and feet (in skin) slaty. Wing 56 to 59, tail about 28, bill 12 to 13, tarsus 16 mm.

♀ *ad.* Like the male, but perhaps a little smaller.

Hab. Mount Apo, Southern Mindanao, 3000 feet above the sea.

Type ♂, No. W. 302. A. Mt. Apo, October 1903. Collected by Mr. John Waterstradt.

On behalf of the Trustees of the Australian Museum, Sydney, Dr. SCLATER (at the request of Mr. A. NORTH, C.M.B.O.U.) exhibited a series of twenty-two specimens of birds belonging chiefly to recently described species, on which Mr. North was anxious to obtain the opinion of the Members of the B.O.C. Amongst these were examples of :—

(1) RHIPIDURA INTERMEDIA, North, Vict. Nat. xix. p. 101 (1802) ; id. Nests & Eggs Austr. B. p. 130 (1903). From Cairns, N.E. Queensland (*E. J. Cairn & R. Grant*).

(2) Eopsaltria nana, Ramsay, Pr. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. ii. p. 372 (1877). From Boar Pocket, thirty miles from Cairns (*E. J. Cairn & R. Grant*).

(3) Malurus assimilis, North, Vict. Nat. xviii. p. 29 (1901); id. Nests & Eggs Austr. B. p. 222 (1903). From Tyndaric, Western N.S.W. (*J. Ramsay*, 1882).

(4) Acanthiza ewingi, Gould, B. Austr. iii. pl. 55 (1848); North, Pr. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., 30th March (1904), p. iv; id. Nests & Eggs Austr. B. p. 273 (1904). From Waratap, Mt. Bishop, Tasmania (*R. N. Atkinson*).

(5) Acanthiza diemenensis, Gould, B. Austr. iii. pl. 54 (1848). From Tasmania.

(6) Acanthiza mastersi, North, Agric. Gaz. N.S.W. xii. p. 1425 (1901); id. Nests & Eggs Austr. B. p. 278 (1904).

(7) Climacteris, sp. inc.—*Climacteris leucophæa*, var., Cairn & Grant, Rec. Austr. Mus. i. p. 31 (1890). From Boar Pocket, Bellenden Range, N.E. Queensland.

(8) Melithreptus leucogenys, Milligan, Emu, ii. p. 161 (1903). From Harvey River, Western Australia.

(9) Pachycephala howensis, North, Rec. Austr. Mus. v. p. 125 (1904). From Lord Howe's Island.

(10) Pachycephala occidentalis, Ramsay, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. iii. p. 212 (1878). From Western Australia.

(11) Aphelocephala nigricincta (North).—*Xerophila nigricincta*, North, Ibis, 1895, p. 340; North & Keartl. Rep. Horn Sc. Exp. Centr. Austr. pt. ii. Zool. p. 82, pl. 7. upp. fig. (1896).—*Aphelocephala nigricincta*, North, Nests & Eggs Austr. B. p. 294 (1904). From Missionary Plain, Central Australia.

Dr. Sclater stated that Dr. Hartert had kindly examined these birds, and after comparing them with the specimens in the Tring Museum had furnished him with the following remarks:—

(1) *Rhipidura intermedia* seems to be a fairly well-marked subspecies of *R. rufifrons,* but nothing more. I *cannot* see that the orange-rufous on the tail is less extended *nor* that the black gular band is narrower, though, on the other hand, the white area of the throat is somewhat larger!

(2) *Eopsaltria nana* is quite a good species. The Tring Museum contains examples of it from Queensland, procured by Meek.

(3) There can be no doubt that *Malurus assimilis, M. lamberti,* and *M. pulcherrimus* are distinct forms, which can be easily recognized.

(7) This *Climacteris* should be compared with the type of *C. weiskei,* Reichenow (Orn. Monatsb. viii. p. 187, 1900), in the British Museum.

[I have made this comparison, and find that *C. weiskei* has a rufous rump, and is a smaller form of *C. pyrrhonota* (see Hellmayr, Das Tierr., Aves, Lief. 18, p. 225). But if, as Mr. Campbell tells us, *C. pyrrhonota* is only the young of *C. scandens* (Nest & Eggs Austr. B. p. 333), this bird may be the adult form of *C. weiskei.* Further specimens from Queensland are required to settle this point.—P. L. S.]

(8) *Melithreptus leucogenys* seems to be hardly separable from *M. brevirostris.*

(9, 10) The three forms *Pachycephala gutturalis, P. occidentalis,* and *P. contempta* are very distinct *subspecies.* I have compared Mr. North's *P. howensis* with my *P. contempta,* Bull. B. O. C. viii. p. xv (1898) (which name has several years' priority), and find them identical, as was to be expected from the locality.

(11) *Aphelocephala nigricincta.* There is no example of this species at Tring.

Mr. F. J. Jackson forwarded the following communication:—

In the collections recently brought home by me there are two species which appear to be undescribed :—

MEGABIAS ÆQUATORIALIS, n. sp.

Megabias flammulatus (nec Verr.), Shelley, P. Z. S. 1888, p. 27.

♂. *M.* similis *M. atrialato,* Cass., ♂, sed suprà viridinitens, nec chalybeo-nitens. Long. tot. 6·6 poll., culm. 0·95, alæ 3·55, caudæ 2·35, tarsi 0·65.

♀. *M.* similis *M. atrialato* ♀, sed rectricibus nigricantibus, castaneo marginatis, et pileo brunnescente dorso concolore facile distinguenda. Long. tot. 6·5 poll., alæ 3·5.

Hab. Entebbe, Uganda ; Toro.

The male only differs from the West-African *M. atrialatus* (Cass.) in having a bottle-green gloss on the black plumage of the upper surface, instead of steel-green. The female, however, is very different from the same sex of *M. atrialatus,* which has a chestnut tail. The inner secondaries are also chestnut with black centres, whereas in *æquatorialis* they are blackish brown with chestnut edges.

APALIS RUWENZORII, n. sp.

A. similis *A. pulchræ,* sed supra dilutius grisescens, et notæo olivaceo lavato, pileo dorso concolore ; gula læte cinnamomea, et torque collari saturatè cineraceo, minime nigro, distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·2 poll., culm. 0·6, alæ 2·0, caudæ 1·4, tarsi 0·85.

Hab. Ruwenzori, February and March, 1902.

Of this new form I obtained three specimens from Ruwenzori.

On behalf of Mr. W. EAGLE CLARKE, Mr. Howard Saunders exhibited a Short-toed Lark, obtained on one of the Flannan Islands on 20th September last, as recorded in Ann. Scottish N. H. p. 206. Some details from Mr. Clarke's letters were read, and comments made by Mr. Saunders on the line of flight which had landed the Subalpine Warbler at St. Kilda, and had probably taken the Short-toed Lark farther north-east to the Flannans.

Mr. M. J. Nicoll reported the recent capture of three examples of the Tawny Pipit (*Anthus campestris*) and stated that an adult male and female shot at Rye Harbour on the 14th and 17th of August respectively were now in the possession of Mr. Bristow, of St. Leonard's.

Both these birds, in much-worn summer plumage, were shot on the same tract of grass where he himself had last year procured four immature examples.

On September 26th he had shot an immature Tawny Pipit on the sea-banks of Sussex, between Bexhill and Pevensey, and he thought there could be little doubt that the species was a regular autumn visitor on migration.

Mr. Nicoll also reported:—1. That he had procured an immature male of the Lapland Bunting (*Calcarius lapponicus*) near Pevensey on the 28th of September.

2. That an immature female of the Broad-billed Sandpiper (*Limicola platyrhyncha*) had been shot at Rye, Sussex, on the 29th August, and sent to Mr. Bristow, of St. Leonard's. This was the fifth record of the occurrence of this species in Sussex.

Mr. C. B. Ticehurst exhibited a specimen of the Solitary Sandpiper (*Totanus solitarius*) which had been shot at Rye Harbour, Sussex, on the 7th of August by a man named Peters. The latter had sent the bird to Mr. Bristow, of St. Leonard's, by whom it had been well mounted. It was believed to be the fourth British-killed example of this American species.

Mr. Ticehurst also exhibited a series of legs of the Lapwing, taken from birds shot on Romney Marsh during last August. These showed various stages of necrosis of the lower part of the leg, caused by sheep-wool having become wound round the part affected:—

The following specimens were exhibitəd:—

1. In which the wool had been pulled off the leg and only a scar remained.

2. With the wool still wound round the leg, but too loosely to cause total necrosis.

3. With the wool entwined round the toes and causing partial necrosis of one toe.

4. In which the wool had been entwined round the leg just above the foot and had caused the loss of the latter.

Out of eight Lapwings shot four were affected in this manner.

A Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla raii*) with both feet similarly affected, was also shown.

Dr. Sclater called attention to the interesting paper on the birds of Dalmatia by Herr Kollibay in the recent numbers of the 'Journal für Ornithologie' (1904, pp. 80 & 457), and exhibited specimens of two of the new subspecies, which Herr Kollibay had kindly sent to him for examination—*Apus apus kollibayi*, Tschusi, and *Accentor collaris reiseri*, Tschusi. The former of these, which was stated (Orn. Jahrb. xiii. p. 234) to be distinguishable by its "blacker colour and large white chin-spot," Dr. Sclater thought could be easily matched in a good series of *Cypselus apus* from various parts of the Old World, but the *Accentor collaris* was certainly slightly different from northern specimens, in its paler colouring and ashy grey back and head. It was, however, apparently identical with examples from the Apennines.

Mr. D. Seth-Smith exhibited a nestling and an egg of *Turacus macrorhynchus*, from Mrs. Johnstone's aviaries at Bury St. Edmunds, and made the following remarks:—

"A pair of these fine Touracos collected a few sticks together on a basket-lid fixed in a rhododendron-bush. Two eggs were laid, one of which was hatched. The young bird was covered with black down, and was carefully tended by its parents, but succumbed during a very cold night in September, when about a month old. At this age the wing-feathers are well developed, but the rest of the body is still covered with black down. The hatching and partial rearing of this nestling will form the subject of a paper by

Mrs. Johnstone which will be published in the 'Avicultural Magazine' for November 1904.

"The egg is oval in shape, very slightly more pointed at one end than the other; the texture fine and the surface smooth; the colour pinkish white. Dimensions 1·5 × 1·2 inches."

Mr. W. P. Pycraft described the main features of this nestling Touraco, which are of considerable interest:—The bird, though a month old, had the trunk still invested in down. This was black in colour, short, and sparsely distributed. The wings were relatively of great size, though the quills had not finished their growth. The major coverts of the upper surface, like those of nestling Game-birds, had, however, completed their growth.

The proportions of the hand and forearm agreed roughly with those of the young Game-bird and Hoatzin, and differed from what obtains in the adult, where the hand was shorter instead of longer than the forearm. The thumb was armed with a well-developed claw.

Mr. Pycraft, in concluding his remarks, said that when younger nestlings were obtained it would probably be found that the wing of this bird repeated all the features which were to be found in the wings of nestlings of *Opisthocomus* and the Game-birds. In other words, it would show incontestable evidence of adaptation to an arboreal existence: the precocious development of the wing having taken place as a safeguard against such accidents as falling from the tree in which the nest was placed.

Letters were read from Mr. W. L. Sclater, dated at his camp on the north bank of the Zambesi, about 14 miles above the Victoria Falls, near the mouth of the Sinde, a northern confluent of the Zambesi. Mr. Sclater had arrived at the Victoria Falls by the newly-opened line from Buluwayo, and was devoting himself to collecting birds and butterflies, of which he had already amassed a series. The spot selected was convenient for the purpose, facing the river, and a Canadian canoe rendered access easy in all directions. He proposed to stay about a week longer, and on returning south to leave his taxidermist behind him to continue his researches.

Mr. W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT made the following remarks on the species of the genus *Xenicus*, and showed that *X. stokesi*, G. R. Gray, was a very distinct species from *X. longipes* :—

XENICUS LONGIPES (Gmel.).

Judging from the large series kindly lent me by Mr. Walter Rothschild, and from the specimens in the British Museum, which together number forty-six, the fully adult male and female of this species do not differ from one another in plumage, and the bird with the upper parts umber-brown, which both Sir Walter Buller and Dr. Sclater describe as the adult female, is really immature.

The range of this species is confined to South Island, New Zealand.

XENICUS STOKESI, G. R. Gray.

The type of this species, an immature bird, was procured by Capt. Stokes in the Rimataka Ranges of Wellington District, North Island. An adult bird was also procured by Capt. Stokes in the same locality, but was identified as *X. longipes* by G. R. Gray. There can be no doubt that these two specimens are adult and immature examples of the same species. The adult may be at once distinguished from *X. longipes* by the shining slate-blue sides of the neck and chest tinged, in certain lights, with greenish, and by the patch of pure yellow feathers on the yellowish-green flanks. In the adult of *X. longipes* the sides of the neck and chest are grey, and the flanks uniform yellowish-green, even in the most brightly-coloured specimens. The bird described by Dr. Sclater [Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xiv. p. 453 (1888)] as the adult of *X. gilviventris*, v. Pelz., is the immature type specimen of *X. stokesi*.

Xenicus gilviventris, v. Pelz.

I have examined 21 examples of this species, the majority of which have been kindly lent me by Mr. Walter Rothschild. The fully adult male and female do not differ from one another in plumage, the upper parts being greenish-olive, shading into greyish-brown on the crown. Immature specimens of both sexes have the upper parts dull yellowish-brown, shading into umber on the crown. A specimen in the Tring Museum (*Buller*), which appears to be in a still younger stage of plumage, has the upper parts tinged with dull greenish.

The British Museum has recently received several examples of this species procured by Lord Ranfurly at Lake Te Anau and at Long Sound, both in Otago District, South Island, New Zealand.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 16th of November, 1904, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m. Members intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Witherby.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater,	W. R. Ogilvie-Grant,	H. F. Witherby,
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CX.

The hundred and ninth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 16th of November, 1904.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, S. R. Clarke, J. C. Crowley, R. A. Crowley, H. E. Dresser, F. D. Drewitt, M.D., E. V. Earle, A. H. Evans, E. N. F. Fenwick, J. Gerrard, F. Gillett, Norman Gilroy, H. Goodchild, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant (*Editor*), E. Hartert, Ph.D., G. E. Lodge, H. C. Munro, C.B., H. Munt, T. H. Newman, M. J. Nicoll, T. Parkin, Theed Pearse, H. J. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, M.D., W. P. Pycraft, F. R. Ratcliff, R. H. Read, W. E. Renaut, Hon. Walter Rothschild, Ph.D., M.P., Howard Saunders, F. C. Selous, D. Seth-Smith, J. Stares, A. Thorburn, C. B. Ticehurst, N. F. Ticehurst, A. Trevor-Battye, J. I. S. Whitaker, S. J. White, J. A. Williams, H. F. Witherby (*Secretary and Treasurer*).

Visitors: J. M. Barton, S. A. Davies, G. F. Goodchild, Lord Ronald S. Gower, Rev. J. R. Hale, W. Ilbert, J. S. Parkin, J. Sargent.

Before commencing the ordinary business the Chairman announced, with much regret, the death of a member of the Club, the well-known artist Mr. EDWARD NEALE, of 43 Charlotte Street, Portland Place, which occurred on Friday the 11th inst. All lovers of bird- and animal-life were no doubt acquainted with his drawings which illustrated the late E. T. Booth's 'Rough Notes.' He was also connected with the late Lord Lilford's 'Coloured Figures of British Birds' and Mr. H. E. Dresser's 'Birds of Europe,' as well as with many other works on natural history. It may be added that he was a favourite pupil of the late Joseph Wolf, the well-known founder of the school from which so many celebrated artists had originated, and of which, it was no exaggeration to say, he was not the least talented exponent.

It was unanimously agreed that a letter of condolence should be sent from the members of the Club to the nearest relatives of the late Mr. Neale.

On behalf of Mr. W. EAGLE CLARKE (who was unfortunately unable to be present), Dr. SCLATER exhibited specimens of two new species of birds discovered during the voyage of the Antarctic ship 'Scotia,' and read the following descriptions:—

1. NESOSPIZA GOUGHENSIS, n. sp.

General colour of upper- and under-parts olive-green, tinged with silvery grey. The middle of the abdomen, under tail-coverts, a stripe from the forehead to behind the eye, and the malar streak olive-yellow; chin, throat and lores black; primaries and secondaries dusky, with silvery-grey tips and the outer webs margined with bright olive-green; middle tail-feathers olive-green, the rest grey margined and tinged with green: bill and feet, in life, clove-brown. Wing 4·15 inches, tail 3·68, tarsus 1·18, culmen 0·71.

Hab. Gough Island, 200 miles south of Tristan da Cunha.

2. NESOSPIZA JESSIÆ, n. sp.

Above tawny ochraceous streaked with black; under surface orange-buff, streaked with black on the breast and flanks; primaries blackish, narrowly edged with dull yellow; secondaries and wing-coverts blackish, broadly edged externally with buff; middle tail-feathers acuminate, with dusky middles and dull yellow margins; outermost rectrices buff, with narrower dusky middles: bill and feet blackish. Wing 4·05 inches, tail 3·45, tarsus 1·2, culmen 0·65.

Hab. Gough Island, 200 miles south of Tristan da Cunha.

I have named this bird in honour of Mrs. Bruce, the wife of the leader of the expedition.

Mr. J. I. S. Whitaker exhibited a new subspecies of Skylark (*Alauda arvensis harterti*), and made the following remarks:—

"The bird I have to show is a new subspecies or form of the Common Skylark, which breeds in the Tunisian Regency, and is probably resident there throughout the year. It appears to be a good geographical race, and is sufficiently distinct from the typical *Alauda arvensis*, L., to rank as a subspecies. It differs chiefly from *A. arvensis* in its paler and more rufescent coloration, and in its rather longer and somewhat differently shaped bill. These characters are perhaps not very strongly marked, but appear to be constant.

"I may here observe that until a few days ago I only possessed specimens of this Lark obtained in the somewhat worn plumage in late spring, and, finding certain nesting Skylarks in the British Museum collection which closely resembled my Tunisian birds, I hesitated to separate the latter. Having, however, recently received a few more specimens of Tunisian Skylarks in fresh plumage, obtained at the end of October, I found among them one which differed from the others in its paler and more rufescent plumage, and in the shape of its bill, proving, in my opinion, the distinctness of this form. The bulk of the examples I have just received from Tunis are the ordinary *A. arvensis*, which occurs abundantly in the Regency as a winter migrant, and no doubt far outnumbers the paler breeding-birds.

"I may here remark that a third form of Skylark is to be met with in winter in Southern Tunisia, a small mealy-grey bird, which is apparently referable to the *A. cantarella*, Bonap. This form, so far as I can ascertain, does not occur in North Tunisia, and I am unable to say at present whether it is to be found in South Tunisia throughout the year or only in winter.

"ALAUDA ARVENSIS HARTERTI, n. subsp.

"♂ *ad.* Like *A. arvensis*, Linn., but differs in being paler and more rufescent in coloration, and in having a rather longer and somewhat differently-shaped bill. Soft parts as in *A. arvensis.* Total length 7 inches, wing 4·4, culmen ·6, tarsus ·9.

"♀ *ad.* Resembles the male, but is rather smaller.

"*Type*, ♂. El Oubira, North Tunisia; spring."

Mr. M. J. NICOLL exhibited and made remarks on the following birds:—

1. A male of the "Sprosser" Nightingale (*Daulias philomela*).

"This specimen, the first authentic British-killed example of the species, was obtained at Smeeth, in Kent, on the 22nd October, 1904. It was forwarded for preservation to Mr. Bristow, of St. Leonard's, who kindly brought me the bird in the flesh for examination, and subsequently lent it to me for exhibition."

2. A pair of Water-Pipits (*Anthus spipoletta*).

"I shot the male, an immature bird, at Rye Harbour, in Sussex, on October 26th, 1904. It was in company with several Rock-Pipits.

"The female, which is also an immature bird, was killed on November 14th, 1904, at Pevensey Sluice, Sussex. I have not the least doubt that the Water-Pipit is a regular visitor to England during the autumn migration. It must be borne in mind that as this species closely resembles the common Rock-Pipit both in appearance and habits, it might easily pass unnoticed unless it were specially searched for. When, however, one becomes acquainted with its appearance and note, it may be at once distinguished from the Rock-Pipit, even when on the wing, by the distinctly white appearance of the under-parts. The call-note of the Water-Pipit differs from that of the Rock-Pipit. It is less loud, rather harsher, and uttered several times in quick succession.

"All the Water-Pipits I have met with have been feeding round salt and brackish pools, and I have clearly identified two or three more examples this autumn without being able to obtain them."

The Hon. WALTER ROTHSCHILD, Ph.D., M.P., exhibited a specimen of a new Raven from Bougainville Island, Solomon Group, discovered by Mr. Albert S. Meek, and described it as follows:—

CORVUS MEEKI, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Bill entirely black and strongly curved, with strong bristles covering the basal half of the upper mandible and also the base of the lower mandible. Head and neck black with a metallic green gloss, becoming purplish on the forehead. Rest of the upper surface black with dark purplish-blue reflections; underside duller; all the feathers white at the base. Shape of the wings and tail exactly as in *Corvus woodfordi woodfordi* from Guadalcanar, and its very closely allied, but slightly larger, subspecies, *Corvus woodfordi vegetus*, Tristr., from Isabel Island. Wing 290–295, tail 140–145, bill 69–70, metatarsus 54–58 mm. "Iris brown, bill and feet black."

Type No. A 1719, ♂, Bougainville Island, 2.v.1904. Collected by Mr. A. S. Meek.

Two males were sent.

This new species differs from *C. woodfordi* in having the bill black, instead of milky white, the culmen narrower and more ridged, and the bristles longer and covering the base of the culmen, which is bare in *C. woodfordi*. The cutting-edges of the upper mandible are less wide laterally, and do not conspicuously overhang the under mandible. The iris is brown instead of white.

Mr. W. P. Pycraft exhibited wings of *Cosmetornis vexillarius* and *Macrodipteryx macrodipterus*, which he had prepared to show the peculiar modifications they had undergone.

He pointed out that in *Cosmetornis* several of the primaries had become enormously elongate, and no appreciable structural change in the feathers was noticeable; but that in *Macrodipteryx* only one primary, the second reckoning from the wrist, had become modified, and this presented several very remarkable features. The most obvious of these was the curious reduction of the vane to a small racquet-shaped blade at the end of the long shaft. When more closely examined, however, the shaft was found to have become peculiarly modified. The calamus or quill was reduced to an exceedingly small size, and had become much thickened and curved so as to displace its major covert and the covert of the quill next in front of it. The upper umbilicus of the under surface of the quill remained permanently open.

The contention that these quills could be raised by the sitting birds so as to simulate the surrounding grass-stems (*cf.* Newton, Dict. B. p. 641) was completely disproved by the rigid way in which this quill, like the rest of the primaries, was bound to the skeleton. Mr. Pycraft said that his remarks confirmed the observations of Lord Lovat (*cf.* Grant, Ibis, 1900, p. 312).

Mr. D. Seth-Smith exhibited a living specimen of the rare Weaver *Munia flaviprymna* from North-west Australia, and made the following remarks:—"This species was described by Gould in 1845, from a single specimen obtained by Dr. Bynoe during the surveying-voyage of the 'Beagle' in 1839. What became of the type specimen is uncertain; but an example obtained by Mr. J. R. Elsey in 1856 is now in the British Museum, and appears to be the only skin in this country at the present time.

"Gould was unable to give any particulars as to the habits of this species; and Mr. A. J. Campbell states, in his 'Nests and Eggs of Australian Birds' (1901), that since Gould's time nothing further has been recorded concerning the species.

"Early in the present year a few living specimens were obtained by an Australian bird-catcher. A pair found their way to the Melbourne Zoological Gardens, as recorded by Mr. Le Souëf in the 'Emu' for last July. At the same time my friend Mr. Peir, of Sydney, secured six living specimens, five of which died and were presented to the Australian Museum, where the species was not previously represented. The sixth is the one I have the pleasure of exhibiting here this evening.

"The trapper from whom these birds were obtained states that they go about in pairs, in company with *Munia castanei-thorax*, and average about one to every thousand of the latter species."

Dr. Sclater stated that when he was in the hills beyond Monte, in Grand Canary, in April last, he saw a pair of large Birds of Prey circling about along the cliffs above San Mateo. He was informed that they were "Angolan" Vultures, and, thinking it possible that *Gypohierax angolensis* might occasionally cross over to the Canaries from the mainland, asked his friends if they could procure a specimen for him. They kindly promised to do so, and the bird in question reached the Zoological Society's Gardens on the 8th of November last. It is a young bird and in good condition, but, unfortunately, the so-called "Angolan" Vulture turned out to be *Neophron percnopterus*. He wished to record this fact to prevent other ornithologists from being misled in the like manner. He was, however, none the less obliged to his friend Mr. Otto Netzer, of the Hotel Santa Brigida, Monte, for so kindly meeting his wishes. He also saw examples of *Neophron percnopterus* in the Museo Canariense at Las Palmas (*cf.* Bull. B. O. C. xiv. p. 81), and added that Mr. Meade-Waldo had informed us (Ibis, 1893, p. 196) that this is the only Vulture found in the Canaries.

Dr. F. G. Penrose then made the following statement:—

"At the last meeting of the Club I suggested the advisability of collecting further data on the migration of birds within the United Kingdom, as I thought that the records now published in the 'Field' and elsewhere were scarcely sufficient to be of much scientific use.

"Our Chairman suggested that two or three of the Members who were interested in the matter should meet together and, if possible, bring some scheme before the Club at this evening's meeting.

"This has been done. Two or three of us have met together, and as the result of our discussions, together with the help and advice obtained by correspondence with some of the leading authorities, we venture to put before the Club the following proposals for discussion:—

"(1) That a Sub-Committee be appointed by the Committee of the British Ornithologists' Union or of this Club, for the purpose of collecting and collating evidence of the movements of our commoner migrants within this realm.

"(2) In order to obtain this evidence, we believe the best way to go to work would be to secure the co-operation of a limited number of competent observers in different parts of the country, who would undertake to fill up and periodically forward to a common centre, schedules drawn up and distributed by the Sub-Committee.

"(3) These schedules should be printed forms, containing the names of the commoner regular migrants, and so ruled that various points, such as date of first arrival, of arrival in numbers, the sex, &c., could be tabulated.

"The records would have to be summarized and the results drafted into a report, which it is to be hoped would be published either in the 'Ibis' or in our 'Bulletin.'

"We believe that it would be wisest, at any rate at first, to limit the enquiry to England and Wales, but with the hope and intention of being able to fall into line with the work already done for Scotland, and also to enlist the co-operation of Irish naturalists.

"The initial expenses would be very small, and we do not think it would be necessary to ask for any funds immediately.

"Such is the scheme we venture to lay before you this evening. No more need, I think, be said, except to ask the Chairman to allow an expression of opinion to be taken either to-night or at our next meeting, in order that, as we hope, the matter may take some definite shape."

Dr. Penrose's statement met with unanimous approval, and the Chairman proposed that the subject should be discussed at the next Meeting of the Club.

Mr. S. A. Davies and Mr. J. Stares exhibited eggs of the Dusky Redshank (*Totanus fuscus*) and made the following remarks :—

We were successful this year in finding five nests of the Dusky Redshank (*Totanus fuscus*) on the borders of Russian Finland and Swedish Lapland. The birds were fairly numerous, but their range did not extend very far beyond the limits of the fir-forests, above which they were somewhat scarce, ceasing altogether about lat. 68° 40′ N.

John Wolley found that they nested far from water on the fir-clad hills, especially in the neighbourhood of ground that had been recently burnt, but he heard from the Finns that the birds occasionally nested on the marshes. All our nests were taken in the marshes themselves. The nests are extremely difficult to find, in fact it is only by luck in the course of beating that one stumbles on them. The nest is a mere scrape on a hummock in the cloudberry marsh. The male apparently incubates, as the birds flushed from eggs were of that sex, and one of our Finns with a stick knocked over a male bird which had the breast-feathers much worn from incubation.

The presence of birds of either sex in the marshes is no indication of the whereabouts of the nest, as any Dusky Redshank disturbed while feeding will behave exactly as if it had a nest. The birds flushed from eggs usually went straight away, and we never succeeded in observing them return.

Our photographs of this species were unfortunately unsuccessful, and we obtained only one picture of the eggs, and that is a bad one.

Mr. H. E. Dresser exhibited a nest and eggs of *Carpodacus roseus*, and two nests, one containing eggs, of *Uragus sibiricus*, obtained in the district of Minsinsk, Siberia.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 14th of December, 1904, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m. Members intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Witherby, at 326 High Holborn, W.C.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater, *Chairman.* W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, *Editor.* H. F. Witherby, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

Institution
31 1905
Museum

No. CXI.

The hundred and tenth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 14th of December, 1904.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, S. R. Clarke, Abel Chapman, H. E. Dresser, E. V. Earle, E. N. F. Fenwick, F. W. Frohawk, Norman Gilroy, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant (*Editor*), E. Hartert, Ph.D., G. E. Lodge, Hubert Lynes, R.N., J. G. Millais, H. Munt, T. H. Newman, M. J. Nicoll, Theed Pearse, H. J. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, M.D., T. Digby Pigott, C.B., A. E. Price, W. E. Renaut, C. B. Rickett, Hon. Walter Rothschild, Ph.D., M.P., J. Sargent, Howard Saunders, D. Seth-Smith, W. B. Tegetmeier, C. B. Ticehurst, N. F. Ticehurst, H. M. Wallis, S. J. White, J. Wilkinson, H. F. Witherby (*Secretary and Treasurer*).

Visitors: K. Andersen, W. I. Chapman, Rev. J. R. Hale.

Mr. M. J. Nicoll exhibited another immature female example of the Water-Pipit (*Anthus spipoletta*), obtained on 29th November, 1904, at Pevensey Sluice, Sussex. [*Cf.* Bull. B. O. C. xv. no. cx. p. 20 (1904).]

Mr. Nicoll also exhibited an immature female example of

[*December 22nd*, 1904.]

the Reed-Bunting (*Emberiza schœniclus*) from Pevensey Sluice, which appeared to have the upper parts unusually pale.

The Hon. Walter Rothschild, Ph.D., M.P., exhibited a pair of the true *Phœbetria fuliginosa* (Gmel.) and a pair of *P. fuliginosa cornicoides* (Hutton), and pointed out that while the former was uniform sooty black all over, the latter had only the head, wings, and tail sooty black, the body varying from mouse-grey to greyish-white in extreme specimens. He believed that when the breeding-stations of both forms were discovered, it might be found that *P. f. cornicoides* (Hutton) was a good species, but he thought that at present it would be safer to treat it only as a subspecies.

On behalf of Mr. C. J. Carroll, of Rocklow, Fethard, Clonmel, Mr. Ogilvie-Grant exhibited adult male examples of the Meadow-Bunting (*Emberiza cia*) and the Little Bunting (*E. pusilla*), both captured in England in 1902.

Though both these specimens had already been recorded, neither of them had been exhibited, and Mr. Carroll had therefore forwarded them, hoping that they might prove of interest to the members of the Club.

The Meadow-Bunting was the specimen recorded by Dr. Sharpe in the Bull. B. O. C. xiii. no. xciv. p. 38 (1903). It had been taken alive near Shoreham, in Sussex, at the end of October 1902, and died on the 27th October, 1903.

The Little Bunting had been captured with bird-lime at Pailton, near Rugby, in the beginning of October 1902, and lived in a cage for nearly fifteen months (*cf.* Aplin, Ibis, 1904, p. 307; and Carroll, Zoologist, 1904, p. 312).

On behalf of Mr. H. C. Robinson, Curator of the Selangor State Museum, Mr. Grant exhibited an example of a new species of Tree-Partridge from the mountains of the Malay Peninsula. Mr. Robinson described it as follows:—

Arboricola campbelli, n. sp.

Adult male. Most nearly allied to *A. atrogularis,* but differs chiefly in having the crown and feathers surrounding the eye jet-black; the feathers on the sides of the neck black, margined with white instead of buff; and the flank-feathers tipped with black and with the subterminal shaft-spot rufous-buff instead of white. Iris brown; bill black; tarsus and claws sealing-wax red; orbital and gular skin brick-red. Total length about 9·6 inches, culmen 0·8, wing 5·6, tail 2·4, tarsus 1·65.

Adult female. Similar to the male.

Hab. Telôm Valley (3500–4500 feet), borders of Perak and Pahang, Malay Peninsula. 21st September, 1904.

The male type of this fine new species has been presented to the British Museum.

Mr. Ogilvie-Grant described a new species of Barbet from Uganda, procured by Colonel Delmé-Radcliffe during the Anglo-German Boundary Commission.

Tricholæma radcliffei, n. sp.

Adult male. Differs chiefly from the male of *T. lachrymosa* in having the subterminal black spots on the feathers of the sides of the breast and flanks *rounded,* instead of pear-shaped, the under-parts washed with yellow instead of buff, and the median and lesser wing-coverts uniform, not spotted at the tip with buff. Total length about 5·1 inches, culmen 0·62, wing 2·7, tail 1·7, tarsus 0·7.

Hab. Mulema, Uganda, 5000 feet, April 1903. Collected by W. G. Doggett.

Mr. Grant also exhibited specimens of *Lybius rubrifacies,* Reichenow, from the same locality: this species of Barbet was new to the British Museum Collection.

Dr. F. G. Penrose referred to the notice in the last number of the 'Bulletin' on the subject of Migration. He asked the Chairman if he would obtain from the Club an opinion as to the advisability of appointing a Sub-Committee.

After some discussion, Messrs J. L. Bonhote, W. Eagle Clarke, M. J. Nicoll, F. G. Penrose, N. F. Ticehurst, and

H. F. Witherby were nominated to serve on a Sub-Committee, and to lay before the Club at the next Meeting some scheme for "obtaining information on migration within these islands."

Mr. C. B. Rickett exhibited a specimen of a Crow-Tit (*Paradoxornis guttaticollis*), from Fohkien, with abnormally developed mandibles, resembling those of the Crossbill, the upper mandible especially being greatly lengthened and strongly curved. He remarked that, in spite of this deformity, the bird was fat and in good condition.

The Chairman announced that it was proposed to place in the Leyden Museum a bronze bust of the celebrated ornithologist Temminck, whose great services to our special science were well known. It was thought that some English ornithologists might be willing to assist in this good work. In such case, contributions might be sent to the President of the Ornithological Union of the Netherlands, Baron Snouckaert van Schauburg, Neerlangbruch, Holland.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 18th of January, 1905, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m. Members intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Witherby, at 326 High Holborn, W.C.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater, *Chairman.*	W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, *Editor.*	H. F. Witherby, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CXII.

The hundred and eleventh Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 18th of January, 1905.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, W. Ruskin Butterfield, H. E. Dresser, Dr. F. D. Drewitt, A. H. Evans, H. W. Finlinson, F. W. Frohawk, Charles Garnett, Frederick Gillett, F. H. Carruthers Gould, Dr. Ernst Hartert, Collingwood Ingram, G. E. Lodge, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, H. Munt, M. J. Nicoll, T. H. Newman, Theed Pearse, Charles E. Pearson, Henry J. Pearson, A. E. Price, F. W. Proctor, W. P. Pycraft, C. B. Rickett, Hon. Walter Rothschild, Ph.D., M.P., Howard Saunders, D. Seth-Smith, Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe, Col. C. Swinhoe, W. B. Tegetmeier, C. B. Ticehurst, Dr. N. F. Ticehurst, Watkin Watkins, L. A. Williams, H. F. Witherby (*Secretary and Treasurer*).

Visitors: Knud Andersen, W. Graburn, Major Sparrow, B. Thomasset.

Dr. N. F. Ticehurst exhibited a Nutcracker (*Nucifraga caryocatactes*) which had been shot on the 14th inst. by a gamekeeper at Benenden in Kent. It was a male by dissection. The previous instances of this bird's occurrence in Kent appear to be one mentioned in Latham's 'Synopsis'

Smithsonian Institution, National Museum.

[*January 26th*, 1905.]

(vol. i. p. 401), a specimen in the British Museum (*cf.* Sharpe, Catalogue of Birds, iii. p. 54), and a specimen shot in Strode Park, Herne, on November 17, 1885.

Mr. J. L. Bonhote exhibited a specimen of Bartram's Sandpiper that had been shot near St. Keverne, Cornwall, in October 1883, and had been recorded in the 'Zoologist' of that year (p. 495). Mr. Bonhote had recently received the specimen from Mrs. Leverton, of Truro, whose husband, the late Dr. Leverton, had shot it. Mr. Harting had recorded some eight occurrences of this American species in England, this specimen being the last record.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe exhibited, on behalf of Mr. Frederick Stubbs, the Secretary of the Oldham Field Naturalists' and Photographic Society, a specimen of the Pacific Eider (*Somateria v-nigrum*), which had recently been killed in the Orkneys. This was the first record of the species in the British Islands.

Mr. Stubbs had sent the following note on the occurrence:—

"The bird, a drake in fully adult plumage, was received by me in the flesh, from a Scarborough dealer, on December 17th, 1904. The black chevron on the chin and other characters led me to believe that the bird was not a Common Eider, but an example of *S. v-nigrum*, a species hitherto unrecorded for Europe, and I at once wrote to the dealer for particulars of the locality in which it had been obtained. The reply was to the effect that the Eider was shot at Graemsay, Orkney, on December 14th. From entirely independent inquiries made in Orkney it appears that the Eider was shot at Graemsay in the early morning of December 14th by a wild-fowler named George Sutherland, and was sent with some Common Eiders to the Scarborough dealer in the ordinary way of trade."

The Hon. Walter Rothschild, Ph.D., described a new species of Cassowary as

Casuarius roseigularis, n. sp.

Nearest to *Casuarius loriæ*. Occiput, hind-neck, and lower sides of neck yellow; cheeks and throat pale pink; region above ear and base of incipient casque emerald-green; no wattles.

Obs.—This species cannot be described so fully as could be wished, for the bird died the day after arrival. It is a young bird in brown plumage; but the colour of the naked parts is quite pronounced enough to distinguish it from all other species of the genus.

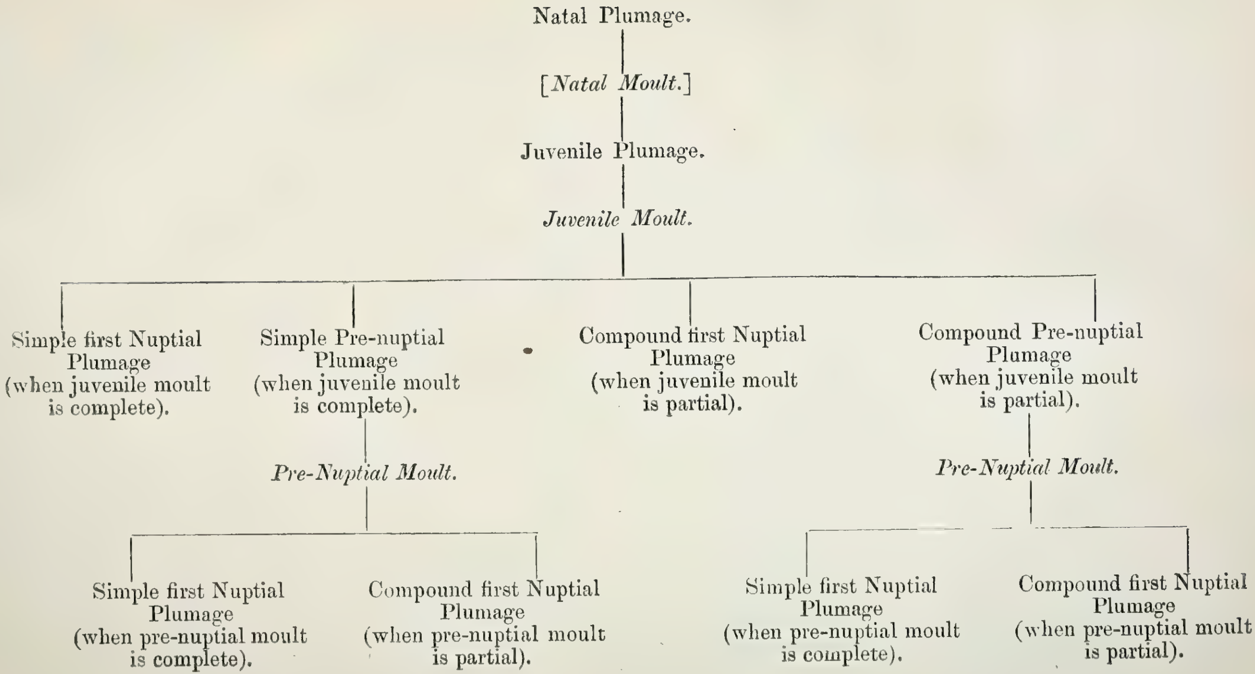
Hab. Unknown.

Mr. W. Ruskin Butterfield called attention to the terms proposed by Dr. Jonathan Dwight, jun., to denote plumages and moults, and made the following remarks:—

"The terms used to denote particular phases of plumage are often inappropriate and sometimes incorrect. The terms 'summer plumage' and 'winter plumage,' for example, can only properly be applied to non-tropical birds; while what is really the second plumage is generally described as the first. In order to afford, in a convenient form, appropriate names, I have devised the following table (p. 34), which shows the derivation of the first nuptial plumage from the natal plumage in probably all Palæarctic birds, except the forms of *Lagopus*.

"The terms adopted are mostly identical with, or modifications of, those employed by Dr. Jonathan Dwight, jun. (*cf.* 'Plumage-Cycles and the Relation between Plumages and Moults,' Auk, xix. pp. 248–255; July, 1902). Several differences will be found, however, upon comparing Dr. Dwight's table with that here given. In the present table, a moult is always named after the plumage which is shed. Moreover, I have named the plumage (whether simple or compound) which in some species intervenes between the juvenile and the first nuptial, the pre-nuptial plumage; and the plumage which in some species intervenes between two consecutive nuptial plumages, the post-nuptial plumage. Dr. Dwight calls the former the juveno-non-nuptial, and the latter the adult non-nuptial.

"The first nuptial plumage is completely shed at the


Natal Plumage.
[*Natal Moult.*]
Juvenile Plumage.
Juvenile Moult.
Simple first Nuptial Plumage (when juvenile moult is complete).
Simple Pre-nuptial Plumage (when juvenile moult is complete).
Compound first Nuptial Plumage (when juvenile moult is partial).
Compound Pre-nuptial Plumage (when juvenile moult is partial).
Pre-Nuptial Moult.
Pre-Nuptial Moult.
Simple first Nuptial Plumage (when pre-nuptial moult is complete).
Compound first Nuptial Plumage (when pre-nuptial moult is partial).
Simple first Nuptial Plumage (when pre-nuptial moult is complete).
Compound first Nuptial Plumage (when pre-nuptial moult is partial).

nuptial moult, and one of the two following plumages results:—

"*a.* A simple plumage, which lasts until the next nuptial moult. This may be called the annuo-nuptial plumage, and the moult the annuo-nuptial moult.

"*b.* A simple plumage which is wholly or partly shed before the next nuptial moult. This may be called the post-nuptial plumage, and the moult the post-nuptial moult.

"If the post-nuptial moult is complete there results a simple nuptial plumage; if partial, a compound nuptial plumage.

"The protective plumages of *Lagopus* and of some *Anatidæ* are called by Dr. Dwight tutelar plumages.

"I will take the opportunity here afforded me of urging those Members of the Club who form collections of bird-skins to lose no opportunity of securing specimens in the moult. There is at present a singular dearth of specimens in this condition in most collections."

A discussion on Mr. Butterfield's proposals ensued, in which Mr. HENRY PEARSON, Dr. HARTERT, Mr. BONHOTE, Mr. PYCRAFT, and Mr. MEADE-WALDO took part, the last-named gentleman giving some interesting details of the successive moultings of Sand-Grouse.

Mr. H. F. WITHERBY exhibited some Tree-Creepers from Algeria, and made the following remarks:—

"On examining my specimens of *Certhia* collected in Algeria last year I found them to be nearly allied, but differing in several ways from typical *Certhia brachydactyla*.

"On mentioning this to Dr. Hartert, he told me that he was about to describe the Algerian Creeper in the forthcoming part of his book on Palæarctic birds; but he has now very kindly lent me some of his material, and allowed me to describe the bird, which I call

"CERTHIA BRACHYDACTYLA MAURITANICA, n. subsp.

"This form has the main features of typical *Certhia brachydactyla* clearly pointed out last year by Dr. Hartert (Bull. B.O.C. xiv. p. 50) and also by Mr. Ruskin Butterfield ('Ibis,' 1904, p. 306), viz. the long bill, the dull mark on the under wing-coverts, and the unspotted forehead, but it differs from typical *C. brachydactyla* in the following points:—

"The upper surface (except as regards the rump and upper tail-coverts, which are rufous, as in *C. b. brachydactyla*) is much less rufous than in the latter form. The ground-colour of the feathers is of a very dark brown, almost black, shade, and the light-coloured portions of the feathers are narrower and more confined than in *C. b. brachydactyla.* The upper surface of the new form has therefore a distinctly less rufous and more black-and-white appearance than that of the typical *C. brachydactyla.* On the under surface the new form has the flanks and under tail-coverts more heavily marked with rusty brown, and these markings extend on the flanks upwards to the shoulder. The buff spot on the outer web of the fourth primary is generally absent in this form, whereas in *C. b. brachydactyla* it is generally present.

"The Cyprus Tree-Creeper (*C. b. dorothea*, Hart.) is browner and less rufous than the Algerian on the upper surface, while the flanks and under tail-coverts are lightly marked with greyish brown instead of heavily marked with rufous-brown. The rump and upper tail-coverts are still more olive.

"*Hab.* Algeria and Tunisia. Type ♂ no. T. 313, Aïn-Draham, Tunis, 13 iv. 1903. Tring Museum: co-types in coll. Witherby."

Mr. Witherby also exhibited a Tawny Owl from Algeria, and remarked that in his opinion the Tawny Owl from Marocco and Algeria constituted a distinct race, which he characterized as follows:—

Syrnium aluco mauritanicum, n. subsp.

Differs from typical *Syrnium aluco* by its constantly darker coloration.

The whole of the upper surface dark blackish grey, the dark colour being produced by the heavier and more pronounced transverse bars on the feathers. The feathers of the underside also much more heavily marked with transverse bars than in typical *S. aluco.* Although *Syrnium aluco* is very much disposed to individual variation, the birds inhabiting Marocco and Algeria are remarkably constant in their coloration.

Hab. Marocco and Algeria.

Type in Witherby collection.

Mr. Witherby also exhibited some Hawfinches from Algeria, and remarked that Cabanis's description (J. f. O. 1862, p. 259) of the Algerian Hawfinch, which he had called *Coccothraustes buvryi*, seemed to have been entirely overlooked until its rediscovery by Dr. Hartert (Vög. Pal. Fauna, p. 57). Former descriptions of *Coccothraustes vulgaris buvryi*, Cab., being meagre, Mr. Witherby detailed its characters as follows :—

Bill averaging smaller than in *C. vulgaris*, being both finer and shorter; white tips to tail less extensive.

In the *male* the head, lores, nape, and upper tail-coverts are greenish brown and never chestnut; the rump is ashy grey instead of brown; the underside is of a purer pink than in typical *C. vulgaris*; the white spots on the inner web of the first four primaries are smaller, while in the fourth primary the spot, instead of being extended downwards towards the base of the feather, as is almost invariably the case in *C. vulgaris*, remains a confined spot.

In the *female* the head, rump, and upper tail-coverts are greenish grey instead of dark brownish, while the underside is much more grey than in typical *C. vulgaris*.

Mr. W. P. Pycraft exhibited the skull of a Hawfinch (*Coccothraustes vulgaris*), and pointed out a peculiar modification of the inner surface of the beak-sheath, which appeared to have been hitherto overlooked. At the region of the gape there was found, on each side of the lower jaw, a large rounded boss, having a finely striated surface. On the palate, immediately above, was an oblong horny pad, similarly striated. These protuberances doubtless served as crushing-organs. The underlying bones were in no way affected by these curious structures.

Mr. H. E. Dresser exhibited the types of three new birds from Tibet, which had been described by him at the last meeting of the Zoological Society on the 17th inst., viz. *Babax waddelli, Garrulax tibetanus,* and *Lanius lama.* These specimens had been obtained by Colonel Waddell, C.B., in the Tsampo Valley, at an altitude of 12,100 feet.

Mr. Dresser also exhibited eggs of the following species which had been obtained by Mr. Zarudny in Persia, viz.:— *Lanius rufus, L. raddei, Passer mesopotamicus, Sylvia momus* subsp. *semenowi, Saxicola picata,* and *Passer* sp. indet.

A communication from Mr. F. J. Jackson contained descriptions of two new species of birds from Equatorial Africa:—

Batis diops, n. sp.

♂. Similis *B. mixtæ* ♂, sed supra saturatius cinereus, et macula alba utrinque ad basin frontis posita distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·5 poll., culm. 0·65, alæ 2·6, caudæ 1·6, tarsi 0·8.

Hab. Ruwenzori. (*Type in Brit. Mus.*)

Sylviella toroensis, n. sp.

♀ *ad.* Similis *S. virenti,* sed maxillâ nigrâ, gulâ albicantiore, subalaribus et margine alari pallide rufescentibus, minime flavicantibus distinguenda. Long. tot. 3·9 poll., culm. 0·5, alæ 2·0, caudæ 1·2, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Kibera River, Toro, Jan. 31, 1902. (*Type in Brit. Mus.*)

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe described a new Babbler as

Amaurocichla kempi, n. sp.

Similis *A. bocagei,* sed gutture pallide cinereo, et hypochondriis aurantiaco-rufis distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·7 poll., culm. 0·8, alæ 2·3, caudæ 1·45, tarsi 0·9.

Hab. Bo, Sierra Leone, April 1904. Collected by Mr. Robin Kemp. (*Type in Brit. Mus.*)

A communication from Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant contained the description of a new subspecies of Scimitar-Babbler, discovered by Captain A. Mears in Upper Chindwin, Burma:—

Pomatorhinus mearsi, n. subsp.

Most nearly allied to *P. schisticeps*, Hodgs., but the general colour above much paler. Crown ashy brown, not sharply defined from the olive-brown upper parts, but separated in some specimens by a more or less well-defined rufous collar; the rufous stripe down the side of the neck, commencing behind the ear-coverts, is pale chestnut-red instead of deep chestnut-maroon.

Adult male. Total length 10 inches, culmen 1·3, wing 4·2, tail 4·6, tarsus 1·5.

Adult female. Total length 9·5 inches, culmen 1·3, wing 4·0, tail 4·3, tarsus 1·4.

♂ and ♀ types are from Taungdwin Chaung, Upper Chindwin, 22nd April, 1904.

Other specimens had been procured at Wabobin, Upper Chindwin, 2nd May, 1904, and at Indin, Myitha Valley, 12th January, 1904.

Mr. Grant added the following note:—

"A specimen from Tipperah in the Hume Collection should also be referred to this subspecies; but other examples from the same State can only be referred to the darker Himalayan form *P. schisticeps*. Of the small form found in the North-west Himalayas, and described by Dr. Sharpe as *P. pinwilli*, there are several specimens in the Hume Collection obtained in the neighbourhood of Simla. The rufous collar which Dr. Sharpe mentions as a distinctive subspecific character does not appear to be constant, and is probably merely individual, as is the case in *P. mearsi*.

"Capt. A. Mears also procured a specimen of *Garrulus oatesi* and a fine series of Silver-Pheasants in the same district."

Major R. Sparrow exhibited the eggs of five species of South-African birds which he had obtained in Natal when serving there after the late war. They were eggs of *Irrisor viridis, Cossypha bicolor, Trachyphonus cafer, Thamnolæa cinnamomeiventris*, and *Parra capensis*.

There was no specimen of the egg of *Irrisor* in the Natural History Museum.

Dr. Sclater exhibited a photograph which he had received from Mr. Alwyn Haagner, of the Dynamite Factory, Modderfontein, some years ago. It represented a pair of *Irrisor viridis* as observed nesting in an old breeding-place of *Parus afer*, in the trunk of a Sanga-tree (*Cursonia*). The tree was felled, and three blue eggs, quite fresh, were taken out of the hole, but only one of them was left unbroken by the fall.

Mr. H. F. Witherby read the following Report :—

"The Sub-Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Club to enquire into the "migration of birds within these Islands" reports as follows :—

"*As to the composition of the Sub-Committee.*

"It is much to be regretted that Mr. W. Eagle Clarke finds himself unable to serve on the Sub-Committee owing to great pressure of other work, and also because it is most important for the migration-work on which he is at present engaged that he should have an entirely free hand. But your Committee are very pleased to be able to announce that Mr. Eagle Clarke is entirely in sympathy with the proposed enquiry, which he regards as a very important undertaking. Mr. Clarke has very kindly promised his advice, an offer of which it is hardly necessary to say your Committee will avail itself.

"Your Committee asks for powers to add to their number if and when it is found advisable.

"*As to the scope of the enquiry.*

"The conclusion has been reached that thoroughness should be the chief aim in the present enquiry; with this in view, the Sub-Committee propose to limit the enquiry at first to the arrival in England and dispersal through England and Wales of the thirty or so strictly migratory species which winter abroad and nest fairly commonly in England and Wales.

"Although it has been thought best thus to limit the enquiry during its first few months, your Committee are anxious for your sanction to extend it as time goes on.

"*As to the methods to be adopted for obtaining information for the purposes of the enquiry.*

"The proposals may be divided thus:—

"*Firstly*, that (by permission which it is hoped may be obtained from the Master and Elder Brethren of the Trinity House) information should be gathered from the keepers of Lighthouses and Lightships on the Southern and Eastern coasts of England.

"That this information should be obtained by means of Schedules issued to the Light-keepers, who it is hoped will fill in the information required and supplement their notes by forwarding, in specially prepared envelopes, the wings and legs of the birds killed at the Lights.

"Your Committee is of opinion that the information which it is hoped to obtain thus will be extremely important, especially in view of the fact that, in order to make the present enquiry of full value, the facts elicited should form an extension of those obtained by the Migration Committee of the British Association as worked out by Mr. Clarke.

"Your Committee, acting on the best possible advice, begs to recommend that, in order to make this part of the enquiry a real success, small rewards should be offered to the light-keepers for carefully filled in schedules and properly labelled specimens of wings.

"*Secondly*, that information should be gathered from as large a number as possible of reliable observers in each county of England and Wales. That this information should be gathered by means of specially prepared schedules to be filled in and returned week by week.

"It is hoped that by these means sufficient facts may be collected to enable your Committee to trace the movements of the species which winter abroad and build in England or Wales from the times at which they arrive off our coasts until they commence to nest.

"*Funds.*

"It was suggested at first that very little money would be needed for the purposes of the enquiry, but the importance of rewarding the lightkeepers was not then appreciated.

"The additional expense thus involved makes it necessary for your Committee to ask for a sum of Twenty Pounds to enable it to carry on the work."

On the motion of the **Chairman**, the Report was adopted; and, after a discussion, it was proposed by Mr. **Bonhote**, seconded by Mr. **Bidwell**, and carried:—

> "That the sum of Twenty Pounds from the funds of the Club should be granted to the Sub-Committee."

Mr. **Charles Pearson** proposed that the annual Lantern-slide Meeting should be held on March 15th. This was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. **Witherby** announced that he was anxious to deliver the accounts and papers of the Kite Preservation Fund to a properly appointed Secretary. On the motion of Mr. **Henry J. Pearson** it was unanimously agreed that Mr. E. G. B. **Meade-Waldo** be requested to act as Secretary of this Fund.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 15th of February, 1905, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m. Members intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Witherby, at 326 High Holborn, W.C.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

P. L. **Sclater**,	H. F. **Witherby**,	R. **Bowdler Sharpe**,
Chairman.	*Sec. & Treas.*	*Acting Editor.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CXIII.

The hundred and twelfth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of February, 1905.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, H. E. Dresser, H. J. Elwes, F.R.S., F. W. Frohawk, J. Gerrard, Norman Gilroy, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant (*Editor*), Ernst Hartert, Ph.D., Commander H. Lynes, R.N., H. C. Munro, C.B., H. Munt, T. H. Newman, C. E. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, M.D., T. Digby Pigott, C.B., H. L. Popham, A. E. Price, Major F. W. Proctor, W. P. Pycraft, F. R. Ratcliff, R. H. Read, Hon. Walter Rothschild, Ph.D., M.P., J. Sargent, Howard Saunders, F. C. Selous, D. Seth-Smith, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D., W. B. Tegetmeier, C. B. Ticehurst, N. F. Ticehurst, M.D., H. M. Wallis, E. A. Wilson, M.B., H. F. Witherby (*Secretary and Treasurer*).

The Hon. Walter Rothschild, Ph.D., M.P., exhibited a pair of each of the following Eider-Ducks, and made remarks on their distinctive characters and distribution during the breeding-season :—

1. *Somateria mollissima mollissima* (L.). N. Europe.
2. *Somateria mollissima borealis,* Brehm. North-eastern N. America and Greenland, also Iceland.

   (This subspecies is very closely allied to *S. m. mollissima,* the only constant distinctive character being the yellow, instead of olive-green, bill of the adult male. The inner secondaries are said to be more falcate, but this character cannot be seen in skins.)
3. *Somateria mollissima dresseri,* Sharpe. Atlantic coast of N. America from Southern Labrador to Maine.

   (The male may be at once distinguished from males of the two former by the broad and rounded, instead of narrow and pointed, naked frontal angles on the sides of the forehead. It is very possible that the breeding-range of *S. m. dresseri* will be found to overlap that of *S. m. borealis,* in which case *S. m. dresseri* will have to be treated as a distinct species, and not as a subspecies of *S. mollissima.*)
4. *Somateria mollissima v-nigra,* Gray. N.W. America and N.E. Asia.

   (The male resembles the male of *S. m. borealis* in having the bill yellowish and the frontal angles narrow and pointed, but differs conspicuously in having a large V-shaped black mark on the throat. Traces of this mark are, however, sometimes to be seen in *S. m. dresseri.*)
5. *Somateria spectabilis* (L.). Arctic Regions.
6. *Arctonetta fischeri* (Gray). Coast of Alaska, north to Point Barrow.
7. *Eniconetta stelleri* (Pall.). Arctic and subarctic coasts of the Northern Hemisphere.

Mr. Rothschild also exhibited, on behalf of Mr. W. Eagle Clarke, an Albatros, which had been caught on Gough Island. He remarked that it was either *Diomedea carteri* (Rothsch.) (described as *Thalassogeron carteri,* Bull.

B. O. C. xiv. no. c. p. 6, 1903) or a closely allied new form. It agreed with *D. carteri* in the main points, but differed in having a much shorter foot (the middle toe being at least 2 cm. shorter) and the hind-neck of a much greyer tint.

After other remarks Mr. Rothschild added that it was quite impossible to separate the genera *Thalassogeron* and *Diomedea*, and that therefore he would henceforth unite them under the oldest name *Diomedea*. He hoped to enter more fully into this question at a future time.

Mr. ROTHSCHILD also said that Mr. Chas. W. Richmond, of the U.S. National Museum, had kindly called his attention to the fact that the name *Psittirostra psittacea olivacea* proposed by him in the 'Avifauna of Laysan etc.' p. 191 (1900), for the Oahu form of *Psittirostra*, was preoccupied, as Ranzani, 'Elementi di Zoologia,' iii. p. 6 (1823), had already made use of it as an amended name for *Psittirostra psittacea* (Gm.). Mr. Rothschild wished to express his thanks to Mr. Richmond, and proposed to rename the Oahu form PSITTIROSTRA PSITTACEA DEPPEI, nom. nov., in honour of the Prussian traveller Deppe, who had collected the only known specimen of *Hemignathus ellisianus* and several other extinct Oahu birds, of which only a few examples are now in existence in various museums.

Dr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited and described two new birds from the Volcano Islands, south of the Bonin Islands, as follows:—

ZOSTEROPS PALPEBROSA ALANI, n. subsp.

Similar to *Z. palpebrosa stejnegeri* from Miyako-shima (South Loo Choo group), but having the bill slightly smaller (about 11·5 to 13 instead of 14 to 15 mm.), the sides of the body not isabelline-brown, but dirty white with merely a brownish tinge, and the yellow of the throat apparently less extended.

Type: ♂, S. Dionisio, Volcano Islands, 29. v. 1904; collected by a Japanese bird-hunter, and forwarded to the Tring Museum by Mr. Alan Owston.

HYPSIPETES AMAUROTIS MAGNIROSTRIS, n. subsp.

Nearest to *H. amaurotis squamiceps* from the Bonin Islands, but having the bill considerably stronger, the colour of the upperside apparently paler and the throat less rufous; the two last-named differences are not very noticeable, the series of the new form being in very worn plumage.

Type: ♂, S. Dionisio, Volcano Islands, 16. v. 1904; collected by a Japanese bird-hunter employed by Mr. Alan Owston.

The following forms of *Hypsipetes* are now known from the islands of the Japanese Empire:—

Hypsipetes amaurotis hensoni: Yesso.

„ „ *amaurotis*: Hondo and Kiusiu.

„ „ *pryeri*: Loo Choo Islands. Probably each island of this group will be found to have a different form, but material from the various islands has apparently not yet been compared.

Hypsipetes amaurotis squamiceps: Bonin Is.

„ „ *magnirostris*: Volcano Is., south of Bonin.

Mr. E. BIDWELL, through the kindness of Mr. HERBERT W. GRACE, of Hallgarth, Winlaton-on-Tyne, was enabled to exhibit a specimen of the Yellow Warbler [*Dendrœca æstiva* (Gmel.)] obtained in Great Britain. Mr. Grace had furnished the following particulars:—

"This bird was picked up on the Newcastle and Shotley Bridge Road, near Axwell Park, in the county of Durham, in the second or third week of May 1904. It was taken by the lad who found it to Mr. John Walker, a bird-stuffer at Bladon, who set it up and sold it to my game-watcher's son, from whom I bought it. I have my information from Mr. Walker. The bird was quite fresh when he bought it, and had a broken leg, supposed to have been caused by flying against a telegraph-wire.

"The Yellow Warbler is distributed throughout North America, except in the south-western part, and breeds throughout nearly the whole of its North-American range. It goes south in winter to Central America and northern South America."

A discussion followed in which several members took part.

Mr. Rothschild thought it quite possible, taking into consideration its migratory habits, that the bird might have received an "assisted passage," but Mr. Howard Saunders was of opinion that it had probably escaped from a cage. Mr. Seth-Smith said that, so far as he was aware, no species of *Dendrœca* had ever been brought to this country in captivity, but Dr. Hartert observed that in Curaçao a closely allied species, *D. rufopileata,* was frequently kept as a cage-bird. Finally, Dr. Sclater said that he saw no reason why the bird should not reach England as an accidental autumn-visitor, and he pointed out that the distance between northern South America and the northern parts of North America was not greater than the distance between South America and England, and that birds blown out of their course might easily reach our shores.

Dr. Hartert took the opportunity of calling attention to the example of the Sprosser Nightingale (*Daulias philomela*) exhibited at a recent meeting of the Club [*cf.* Bull. B. O. C. xv. no. cx. p. 20 (1904)]. Though this specimen showed no traces of having been kept in captivity, he had no doubt that it had escaped from a cage, for all the Sprosser Nightingales had left N.E. Germany two months previous to the date (22nd October) when the specimen had been procured in Kent. Large numbers of this bird were annually captured and exported by dealers, and if well cared for would show little or no trace of having been kept for a month or two in captivity.

Mr. H. F. Witherby exhibited a Snake (*Tropidonotus viperinus*) which he had taken from the crop of a Serpent-Eagle (*Circaëtus gallicus*) killed by him in Algeria.

Mr. W. P. Pycraft, who had made a careful examination of the Snake, said that while there was no superficial injury beyond one small puncture in the skin, the skull and first two vertebræ were crushed and broken.

Mr. **Witherby** also exhibited a pair of Blackbirds (*Turdus merula algirus* Madarász) from Algeria. The Algerian Blackbird had been pronounced to be distinct from the Madeira Blackbird (*Turdus merula cabreræ*) by Madarász, and Mr. Witherby remarked that it was also distinct from the Marocco Blackbird (*Turdus merula mauritanicus*, Hartert). He also showed for the sake of comparison examples of *Turdus merula merula* and *Turdus merula syriacus*, and remarked that the various geographical forms of the Blackbird were good examples of the value of trinomials. Everyone would agree that the birds he exhibited were all Blackbirds, yet they were distinct forms. To refer to these forms as *Turdus syriacus*, *Turdus algirus*, &c. indicated that they were species of Thrushes, while to call them *Turdus merula syriacus*, *Turdus merula algirus*, &c. gave a much truer indication of their relationships.

Dr. **Sclater**, on behalf of Mr. **Rupert Vallentin**, exhibited a slab of scratched rock taken from a "rookery" of the Rockhopper-Penguin (*Catarrhactes chrysocome*) in the Falkland Islands. Dr. Sclater read the following extracts from a letter addressed to him by Mr. Vallentin on this subject, and exhibited the photographs alluded to:—

"It has long been known to several of the more observant settlers on the Falkland Islands that many of the rocks over which these Penguins are constantly travelling when passing to and from these 'rookeries,' as the breeding-places are called, become in time scratched by the nails at the ends of these birds' feet. Moseley and other naturalists have recorded that the rocks in a Penguin-pathway become in time polished; but, so far as I have been able to discover, no one has placed on record the fact that the birds actually scratch the rocks over which they travel.

"Shortly after my return from the Falkland Isles in the spring of 1901 I called on Dr. Bowdler Sharpe, of the British Museum, and left with him a few fragments of scratched rocks from a Penguin-rookery, and also a pair of Penguin's feet. At the same time I pointed out to him how the nails on the feet of these birds fitted the markings. Some time later I sent him a large slab of rock deeply scarred by Penguins' feet.

"On 24th April, 1904, I received the following letter from Dr. Sharpe:— . . . 'When I got back from the West Indies I found the nice block of scored stone you had got for us, but I did not feel so sure about the marks being the work of Penguins' feet. We therefore held an inquest on it, and I got the rock-experts and geologists here to give me their opinion, which was unanimous that the streaks on the rock are natural, and caused by the action of the sea, and probably by sea-weed decomposing on the rock. They would be glad to have the slab as a specimen in the Geological Department, if you will let me transfer it there.' Later, 22nd August, 1904, Dr. Sharpe wrote as follows in answer to my reply to his letter:—'As regards the rocks and the Penguin's feet, we have them still and should not think of parting with them. The question cannot be regarded as settled yet, and I shall be very pleased to have further evidence *pro* or *con*.'

"The enclosed photograph (fig. 1) shows very well the usual position of a Penguin when resting on a rock. You will notice that the nails are in actual contact with the rock, and that any movement made by the bird in the foreground would at once serve to bring the nails in closer contact with its surface.

"The usual position of a bird of this species when walking up an inclined plane is better shown in fig. 2, which represents the landing-place at the foot of a Penguin-rookery. Here the actual position of the birds can be observed. They can be seen leaning forward and throwing the weight of their bodies on the toe-nails. Frequently the gangway used by these birds when passing to and from their nests winds between two vertical rocks, or through a gap in the cliff. Here the stream of birds becomes congested, and perhaps only sufficient space is left to allow them to pass in single file or two abreast. In such places the rocks over which they pass become deeply scratched (fig. 3). Occasionally these Penguins try and take a bee-line from the landing-place to the rookery, and struggle up the almost vertical rocks by the aid of their wings and feet. Two photographs (figs. 4 and 5) show one of these steep tracks and the scratched rocks in such a pathway.

"During every spring, when the Penguins return to their respective rookeries, their first occupation is to construct their nests. These are very roughly put together, and are made of diddle-du twigs (*Empetrum rubrum*) or tussac-grass (*Poa cæspitosa*). Near a Penguin-rookery on West Point Island there is a dense growth of tussac-grass located on a hill-side, the birds having to climb up a steep bank of peat in order to collect this grass for their nests. Here the peat-banks become scarred with vertical lines of irregular shape and outline, resembling exactly the scratches on the rocks. Of course these scratches on the peat-banks soon vanish after a heavy rain.

"One can always detect the footprints of a Penguin of this species on the soft peaty soil. Their feet are always placed flat on the ground, and the three sharp nails always leave three clear impressions at the end of each footprint.

"The localities from whence all my specimens of scratched rocks have been obtained are situated at least 100 feet above high-water mark."

A discussion followed, and Dr. SHARPE reminded the members that similar specimens of rocks had previously been sent to the Club for exhibition by the same gentleman, and that expert geologists had then expressed their opinion that the scores on the rocks were caused by the action of water &c. and not by the claws of the Penguins. [*Cf.* Bull. B. O. C. xii. no. lxxxix. p. 67 (1902).]

Though some were inclined to entertain Mr. Vallentin's assertions as a possibility, the general opinion of the members present was that the marks were not, or only partially, due to the action of the Penguins' feet.

Mr. H. Munt exhibited from his collection of eggs the following rare species:—

1 Tooth-billed Pigeon (*Didunculus strigirostris*).
2 Christmas-Island Dove (*Chalcophaps natalis*).
3 Green-crested Touraco (*Turacus persa*).
4 Dominican Amazon (*Chrysotis augusta*).

The egg of the Tooth-billed Pigeon was one of two laid on board ship by a bird which was being transmitted to the Zoological Gardens. Both eggs were given to the late Mr. A. D. Bartlett, who presented the second specimen to the National Collection.

The eggs of Nos. 2–4 had been laid in confinement in this country, and it was believed they were now exhibited for the first time.

Mr. Howard Saunders called the attention of the members of the Club to a very interesting article by Mr. Frank M. Chapman in the 'Century Illustrated Monthly Magazine' for December 1904, on the nesting of the American Flamingo (*Phœnicopterus ruber*) in the Bahamas. He pointed out that the photograph of the bird sitting on its nest (on p. 169) agreed absolutely with Mr. Abel Chapman's sketch of *P. roseus* incubating in Spain reproduced in 'The Ibis' twenty years previously.

Mr. Bonhote said that it was he who had first discovered this breeding-colony of Flamingos and shown it to Mr. Frank M. Chapman. He regretted the attention which Mr. Chapman's article had drawn to this colony, as he feared it would now shortly become non-existent.

The Hon. N. C. Rothschild forwarded the following communication:—

"On Wednesday the 15th of June, 1904, I exhibited some skins of rare birds from Egypt and the Soudan. Several of the specimens in question are recorded (Bull. B. O. C. xiv. no. cviii. pp. 90–91) under incorrect names, which are here corrected:—

5 *Mesopicus goertan poicephalus* (Swainson) should read as 5 *Mesopicus goertæ königi*, Neumann.
2 *Lanius leuconotus*, C. L. Brehm, should be 1 *Lanius dealbatus*, Defilippi, and 1 *L. assimilis*, C. L. Brehm.
1 *Myrmecocichla melanura* (Temm.) should be 1 *Cercomela lypura* (Hempr. & Ehrenb.)."

The Secretary announced to the Members of the Club that a small collection of pictures and drawings by the late Edward Neale would be on view at 107 Marylebone Road (three minutes west of Baker Street Station), from Monday 20th February to Saturday 25th February, inclusive, from 11 to 5 o'clock.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 15th of March, 1905, at 8.30, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m. Members intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Witherby, at 326 High Holborn, W.C.

The Members of the Club are reminded that the next Meeting will be devoted principally to a show of Lantern-slides, when it is hoped that those who have obtained interesting photographs of birds during the year will exhibit them.

All those who desire to exhibit slides are requested to furnish the Editor with a detailed list of the subjects they intend to exhibit.

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater, *Chairman.* W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, *Editor.* H. F. Witherby, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CXIV.

The hundred and thirteenth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 15th of March, 1905.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, J. L. Bonhote, W. Eagle Clarke, J. C. Crowley, F. Curtis, H. E. Dresser, F. D. Drewitt, M.D., E. V. Earle, H. J. Elwes, A. H. Evans, H. W. Finlinson, F. W. Frohawk, C. Garnett, J. Gerrard, F. Gillett, N. Gilroy, H. Goodchild, F. H. C. Gould, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant (*Editor*), E. Hartert, Ph.D., H. K. Horsfield, Collingwood Ingram, Major H. Jones, Dr. J. E. Kelso, N. B. Kinnear, G. E. Lodge, Commander H. Lynes, A. McL. Marshall, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, J. G. Millais, E. S. Montagu, H. Munt, T. H. Newman, M. J. Nicoll, Theed Pearse, C. E. Pearson, H. J. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, M.D., H. L. Popham, A. E. Price, Major F. W. Proctor, W. P. Pycraft, F. R. Ratcliff, R. H. Read, W. E. Renaut, C. B. Rickett, Hon. N. C. Rothschild, Hon. W. Rothschild, Ph.D., M.P., J. Sargent, Howard Saunders, F. C. Selous, D. Seth-Smith, J. Stares, W. B. Tegetmeier, Major Horace Terry, A. Thorburn,

C. B. Ticehurst, N. F. Ticehurst, M.D., S. J. White, C. Whymper, J. Wilkinson, L. A. Williams, E. A. Wilson, M.B., H. F. Witherby (*Secretary and Treasurer*), A. F. R. Wollaston.

Visitors: Dr. Knud Andersen, F. A. Blore, Sir William Dunbar, Bart., G. Crabbe, A. C. Curtis, S. A. Davies, C. E. Fagan, F. Furner, F. Carruthers Gould, F. W. Headley, C. E. Hellmayr, W. Ilbert, H. Ingram, Hon. Gerald Legge, R. B. Lodge, Lord Lovat, D.S.O., D. S. Meldrum, G. S. Miller, E. F. de Rougemont, J. B. Sargent, H. Schwann, P. B. Smyth, Count Roman Sotocki, F. J. Waydelin, S. Whiting, E. P. Williams.

Mr. C. E. Hellmayr (introduced by Dr. E. Hartert) exhibited specimens of four new South-American birds, which he described as follows:—

Conopophaga roberti, sp. n.

♂ *adult*. Top and sides of the head, throat, and fore-neck black; broad postocular stripe silky-white; back, upper wing-coverts, and outer webs of the quills pale reddish-brown; tail more olivaceous-brown; middle of the breast and abdomen white, sides pale greyish, under tail-coverts whitish. Bill black, lower mandible whitish. Wing 71½, tail 39½, bill 15 mm.

Hab. Igarapé-Attú, near Pará, Brazil.

Type in Tring Museum: ♂ ad., April 4th, 1904. Collected by M. A. Robert. No. 2032.

This very distinct species is nearest to *C. melanogastra*, Ménétr., from Central Brazil, but is easily recognized by its much smaller size, weaker and shorter bill, and reddish-brown (instead of deep chestnut) upper surface. The middle of the breast and abdomen is white (instead of black), and the sides are pale greyish (instead of olivaceous). *C. aurita* agrees in form and size with this new species, but the coloration is altogether different.

The species is named in honour of Mons. Alphonse Robert, who has sent a small but very interesting collection of birds from the vicinity of Pará to the Tring Museum.

AUTOMOLUS CINNAMOMEIGULA, sp. n.

Nearest to *A. obscurus* (Pelz.), from Cayenne, but easily recognized by its larger size, much longer and heavier bill, cinnamon-rufous upper wing-coverts and sides of the body, deep cinnamon-rufous throat and fore-neck, as well as by the much brighter ochraceous-buff colour of the middle of the breast. The top of the head is much paler olivaceous-brown, and the under tail-coverts are bright cinnamon-rufous (instead of dull rufous-brown, as in *A. obscurus*). From the *A. rubiginosus*-group the new species differs in the following particulars: the top of the head is pale olivaceous-brown, almost of the same colour as the back, only a little lighter, whereas in *A. rubiginosus* and its allies the pileum is deep ferruginous-brown and very much darker than the back. The upper wing-coverts are much paler, bright cinnamon-rufous (not deep ferruginous-brown), the throat and fore-neck uniform bright cinnamon-rufous (in *A. rubiginosus*, &c. only the sides of the throat and the malar region are rufous, the middle of the former ochraceous or buff), and this colour extends along the sides of the body, which is not the case in the *A. rubiginosus*-group. The middle of the abdomen is much paler ochraceous-buff instead of brownish-fulvous. From *A. rufipectus*, Bangs, from Santa Marta, it differs in having the forehead and ear-coverts olive-brown (not chestnut-rufous), the throat, fore-neck, and flanks cinnamon-rufous, while in the Santa Marta bird the throat is buff, the chest rufous, and the sides and flanks raw umber. Wing 85, tail 76, tarsus 24½, bill 25 mm.

The type in the Tring Museum is of the usual "Bogotá" make and was found among a large consignment received from Mons. Mantou, of Paris. The discovery of this distinct species is very interesting and proves once more that the rich fauna of the Bogotá region is not yet exhausted. Most probably it came from a locality not regularly visited by the Indian hunters of that district.

DENDRORNIS INSIGNIS, sp. n.

Similar to *D. elegans*, Pelz., but easily distinguishable by the following characters: the spots on the upper surface are confined to the upper back, are tear-shaped, instead of pearl-shaped, and of a much darker fulvous colour than in *D. elegans* ; the ground-colour of the pileum is darker, more blackish, and the fulvous markings are more distinct; the upper wing-coverts and scapulars are uniform olive-brown without any trace of the pale shaft-lines or apical spots so conspicuous in *D. elegans*; the upper mandible is for the greater part whitish, while in *D. elegans* it is dark horn-coloured. Our species bears also a certain resemblance to *D. spixi*; it differs, however, in the very different shape of the spots on both the upper and lower surface, and in having the apical half of the upper mandible whitish. Wing 100, tail 80, bill 31 mm.

Type in the Museum of Count Berlepsch: ♂ ad., Samiria, N.E. Peru, October 14th, 1881. Hauxwell Collection.

This species has been confounded by various authors with *D. elegans* or *D. ocellata*, from both of which it proves to be quite distinct. I have examined a very large series (27 specimens) from N.E. Peru, Eastern Ecuador, and Bogotá. The present species will be more fully discussed in an extensive paper on the genus *Dendrornis* which I hope to publish shortly.

Pipra exquisita, sp. n.

♂ *adult*. General colour green, a narrow band on the forehead, as well as the sides of the head and throat, rather darker green. Crown of the head beautiful sky-blue. Middle of the lower breast, abdomen, and under tail-coverts bright yellow. Axillaries and under wing-coverts dirty grey with yellowish margins. Bill blackish, lower mandible dirty whitish. Wing 58–59½, tail 26½–28, bill 8 mm.

♀ *adult*. Differs from the male in having the pileum green like the back, the throat dull yellowish, with the tips of the feathers dark green, followed by a well-defined green jugular band, which separates the yellowish throat from the bright yellow belly. Wing 56, tail 27 mm.

Hab. Chuchurras, Central Peru.

Type in the Tring Museum: ♂ ad., Chuchurras, July 1904. Collected by W. Hoffmanns.

The male of this splendid species, at first sight, looks like the young male of *P. coronata,* but may be at once distinguished by the very much paler blue of the crown and the bright yellow abdomen, the latter being dirty yellowish-grey in the species just mentioned. *P. exquisita* is evidently a near ally of *P. opalizans.* Mr. Hoffmanns procured three males and one female at Chuchurras in C. Peru, 320 m. elev. The female has a certain resemblance to *Pipra gracilis,* Hellm., from Matto Grosso, which is known only from a single female specimen in the Vienna Museum; but besides being larger, it differs in having a very much darker green upper surface, a green jugular band, and pale yellow edges to the inner webs of the remiges.

Mr. W. Eagle Clarke exhibited albino examples of two Penguins (*Pygoscelis antarctica* and *P. adeliæ*), and eggs of *Daption capensis* and *Chionis alba,* procured by the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition in the South Orkneys.

Hon. Walter Rothschild remarked that he had in his collection albino examples of the following species of Penguins: *Aptenodytes patagonica, Catarrhactes chrysolophus, Pygoscelis papua* and *Eudyptula minor*; also an entirely *black* specimen of *A. patagonica,* which he believed to be unique.

Dr. E. A. Wilson stated that the 'Discovery' brought home two albino examples of *Pygoscelis adeliæ* procured in the same rookery at Cape Adare in two successive seasons, and possibly the offspring of the same parents.

[In the British Museum there is a pure white example of *Catarrhactes schlegeli* from the Macquarrie Islands, presented by the Earl of Ranfurly.—Ed.]

Mr. H. J. Pearson called the attention of the Members present to a number of enlarged photographs of nests and eggs which he had brought with him for exhibition. He pointed out that by having the small photographs enlarged to natural size the eggs of the various species were much more easily recognized and identified by those looking at them. The series included eggs of the Oyster-catcher, Turnstone, Little Stint, and several species of Duck.

Mr. M. J. Nicoll exhibited a mounted example of the Snow-Finch (*Montifringilla nivalis*), new to the British list, which had been shot at Rye Harbour, Sussex, on February 22nd, 1905. The bird was an adult male. He remarked:—

"On the previous day I was shooting at Rye Harbour and I saw this same bird amongst a large flock of Skylarks. It was exceedingly wild, and finally it flew across the harbour. It was shot next day and forwarded to Mr. Bristow, of St. Leonard's, who showed it to me in the flesh. There had been a north-easterly gale blowing for three days, accompanied by heavy hailstorms. The flight of the bird somewhat resembled that of a Lark, and was much less buoyant than that of a Snow-Bunting.

"The Snow-Finch has twice occurred on Heligoland, in spring and autumn, the first example having been shot on March 30, 1849 (*Gätke*)."

The following Lantern-slides were then exhibited:—

By Mr. W. Eagle Clarke, a series of very fine slides taken by the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition in the South Orkneys and at Gough Island. The subjects were as follows:—

1. Rookery and nesting-habits of the Adelie Penguin (*Pygoscelis adeliæ*).
2. Rookery and nesting-habits of the Gentoo Penguin (*P. papua*).
3. Rookery and nesting-habits of the Bridled Penguin (*P. antarctica*).
4. Rookery and nesting-habits of the Giant Petrel (*Ossifraga gigantea*).
5. Cape Petrel or Pintado (*Daption capensis*) on nest.
6. " " " in its nesting-haunts.
7. Snowy Petrel (*Pagodroma nivea*) on nest.
8. Chicks in a nest of the Dominican Gull (*Larus dominicanus*).

9. Antarctic Skua (*Megalestris antarctica*), feeding on a dead Penguin.
10. Sheathbill (*Chionis alba*) on its nesting-ground.
11. „ „ on its nest.
12. King's Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax atriceps*) on its nest.

    [If the identification of this species is correct, and it certainly appears to be so, its occurrence in the South Orkneys is a very remarkable fact.—Ed.]
13. Four slides showing Gough Island and its scenery.
14. Three slides of the Flannan Isles, Outer Hebrides.

By Dr. E. A. Wilson, a number of magnificent slides taken by the members of the 'Discovery' Antarctic Expedition, 1901–1904, illustrating the following subjects:—

1. General views of breeding-ground of the Emperor Penguin (*Aptenodytes forsteri*) at Cape Crozier, where the Great Ice Barrier abuts on Ross Island, under Mounts Erebus and Terror.
2. Views of Emperor Penguins *en masse* and individually, showing the method of carrying the chick upon the feet, a fold of skin and feathers falling loosely over it from the lower abdomen.
3. Photographs of the chicks and eggs of the Emperor Penguin.
4. Photographs of the various stages of immaturity in the Emperor Penguin, covering the first two years.
5. Views of the breeding-grounds of the Adelie Penguin (*Pygoscelis adeliæ*) at Cape Crozier, on the outlying hills of Mount Terror, and at Cape Adare—all in South Victoria-Land.
6. Photographs of McCormick's Skua (*Megalestris maccormicki*) and of the Black-browed Albatros (*Diomedea melanophrys*).

Mr. S. Whiting (introduced by Mr. H. L. Popham) then exhibited slides of birds and their nests taken in Holland. The following is a list:—

1. Nest and eggs of the Marsh-Harrier.
2. " " Lesser Tern.
3. " " Coot.
4. " " Black Tern.
5. " " Snipe.
6. " " Golden Oriole.
7. " " Whitethroat.
8. " " Wild Duck.
9. Nesting-baskets for Wild Duck to breed in.
10. Hawfinch feeding. (4 slides.)
11. Starling perched on old spade-handle.
12. Nest and eggs of the Black-tailed Godwit.
13. Black-tailed Godwit on nest.
14. Nest and eggs of the Arctic Tern.
15. Arctic Tern returning to nest.
16. " " on nest.
17. Nest and eggs of the Lapwing.
18. Lapwing at nest with young.
19. Oyster-catcher at nest.
20. Sandwich Tern at nest.
21. Common Terns on their nest.
22. Redshanks with nest and eggs.
23. Icterine Warbler with its nest.
24. Avocets with their young and nests.
25. Black-headed Gulls with their eggs, young, &c.

Mr. H. L. Popham showed the following slides of birds photographed in Siberia:—

1. Redshanks, with nest and eggs.
2. Eggs of the Avocet.
3. Nest of the Siberian Thrush (*Turdus sibiricus*).
4. Little Stint at nest.
5. Nest and eggs of the Brent Goose.
6. Nests and eggs of the Bar-tailed Godwit.
7. Nest and eggs of the Red-breasted Goose.
8. " " Bewick's Swan.
9. " " the Black Scoter.
10. " " the Purple Heron.
11. " " the Black-headed Gull.

Mr. F. W. **Frohawk** exhibited 43 slides of birds photographed in the Scilly Islands. The list was as follows :—

1. Oyster-catcher in down.
2. „ with nest and eggs.
3. Two Lesser Black-backed Gulls in down, one week old.
4. Razorbill in down. } Just hatched.
5. Guillemot „ } Just hatched.
6. Family of Guillemots.
7. Storm-Petrel with nest and egg.
8. Two Storm-Petrels in the hands of the exhibitor.
9. Storm-Petrel fluttering up rock to take flight.
10. Rock-Pipit with nest and eggs, found in company with nests of Puffins and Storm-Petrels.
11. Five slides showing the Manx Shearwater in different attitudes, at nesting-hole and climbing on rock.
12. Three slides of same, resting on exhibitor's hand and arm.
13. Puffins at nesting-holes and on the rocks.
14. Puffins, Razorbills, and Guillemots.
15. Three slides showing a row of Razorbills photographed at ranges varying in distance from 20 to 6 feet.
16. Razorbills courting.
17. Shags and Cormorants with their nests, eggs, and young.
18. Shag in stretching attitude.
19. Four slides showing Shag in four attitudes, photographed at a closer range on each occasion.
20. Shags and Cormorants at rest.
21. Puffins, Razorbills, and Guillemots at rest.
22. Lesser Black-backed and Herring-Gulls at their nesting-grounds.

Mr. Frohawk stated that all the photographs had been taken by Mr. C. J. King, St. Mary's, Scilly Isles; many had been taken in company with himself for the purpose of exhibition at the B. O. C.

Mr. J. C. Crowley exhibited slides illustrating the nesting-habits of some British Birds.

Mr. F. W. Headley (introduced by Mr. H. F. Witherby) then exhibited a number of slides of Gulls, to illustrate certain points in the flight of birds.

Mr. J. Stares showed a number of slides of birds'-nests photographed in Russian Lapland. The following species were illustrated:—

Brambling, Redwing, Northern Black-bellied Dipper, Shore-Lark, Great Grey Shrike, Rough-legged Buzzard, Hen-Harrier, Lesser White-fronted Goose, Pintail, Golden-eye, Red-breasted Merganser, Whimbrel, Golden Plover, Dotterel, Temminck's Stint, Dusky Redshank, Buffon's Skua, and Willow-Grouse.

Mr. E. Bidwell showed slides lent by Mr. Thomas Tait, Broomend, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire. He said that the photographs had all been taken with a stand-camera.

The subjects exhibited were:—

1. Back to summer-quarters. The arrival of the Black-headed Gulls at their breeding-resort. Scotland.
2. Nearer view; the Gulls beginning to settle.
3. Gulls settled.
4. Leaving the nest in a hurry.
5. On the wing.
6. A mid-air argument.
7. Handa Island, off the west coast of Sutherland.
8. Kittiwakes, with young in down and eggs.
9. Curlew on nest.
   (These two photos (8 & 9) were taken after sundown on a May night, exposure 18 seconds.)
10. Nest of the Curlew.
11. Puffins.
12. Woodcock. (Taken after 6 p.m. in a dark wood, exposure 30 seconds.)
13. Grey Hen on nest.
14. The same: nearer view.

15. Nest and eggs of Grey Hen. (These were taken on a different occasion, as the bird remained undisturbed when the last two views were taken.)
16. Coal Tit. A wild bird feeding from the hand.

Dr. N. F. Ticehurst exhibited the following slides:—

1. Young Mistle-Thrush.
2. Mistle-Thrush's nest, built on a hurdle. } Ewhurst,
3. Song-Thrush's nest. } Sussex.
4. Blackbird's nest in a bucket.
5. Blackbird's nest.
6. Blackbird.
7. Stonechat's nest. } St. Leonard's-on-Sea, Sussex.
8. Robin's nest.
9. Chiffchaff's nest. Ewhurst, Sussex.
10. Wood-Wren's nest. } Robertsbridge,
11. Wood-Wren sitting on nest. } Sussex.
12. Reed-Warbler's nest. Winchelsea, Sussex.
13. Blue Tit.
14. Reed-Bunting's nest. Crowhurst, Sussex.
15. Green Woodpecker's nest-hole. Hastings.
16. Jay's nest. } Ewhurst, Sussex.
17. Nightjar's nest.
18. Tawny Owl. (In captivity.)
19. Willow-Grouse. Norway.
20. Stone-Curlew's nest.
21. Kentish Plover's nest. } Dungeness, Kent.
22. Little Tern on nest.
23. Great Black-backed Gulls. (In captivity.)
24. Black-headed Gulls. Dungeness, Kent.

Mr. M. J. Nicoll exhibited slides of some British Birds and their nests:—

1. Young Yellow Wagtail.
2. Meadow-Pipit's nest.
3. Blue Tit on cocoa-nut.
4. Coal Tit on cocoa-nut.
5. Young Thrush.

6. Nightingale's nest.
7. Wheatear's nest in old cannon, Pevensey, Sussex.
8. Robin feeding at window.
9. Reed-Bunting's nest.
10. Wood-Wren's nest.
11. Closer view of last, showing eggs.
12. Site of Wood-Wren's nest.
13. ♂ Marsh-Tit feeding young.
14. ♀ " " "
15–17. Jackdaw feeding at window.
18. Starling feeding at window.
19. Lesser Tern's eggs.
20. Lesser Tern sitting.
21. Pellets of Barn-Owl, containing skulls of small birds.
22. Barn-Owl flying from nest.
23. Mute Swan.
24. St. Paul's Rocks, Mid-Atlantic.
25, 26. *Corvus splendens* sitting on a rope at Colombo.
27. Rook's nest in Portugal laurels, Beaufort Park, Battle, Sussex.
28. Rook's nest in sapling, Beaufort Park, Battle, Sussex.
29. Rookery, showing birds, Ewell, Surrey.

At the invitation of Mr. A. McL. MARSHALL and other Members of the Club, Mr. R. B. LODGE had been specially requested to exhibit some of his bird-slides, which have so often delighted those present on previous similar occasions; but, the Meeting having already lasted till 11.30 P.M., the Chairman was reluctantly compelled to ask Mr. Lodge to postpone the exhibition of his slides.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 12th of April, 1905, at 8.30, at the Restaurant

Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M. Members intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Witherby, at 326 High Holborn, W.C.

The Meeting in May will be held on the 24th of that month.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER,	W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT,	H. F. WITHERBY,
Chairman.	*Editor.*	*Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CXV.

The hundred and fourteenth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 12th of April, 1905.

Chairman: P. L. SCLATER, F.R.S.

Members present:—Capt. G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON, E. BIDWELL, H. E. DRESSER, F. D. DREWITT, M.D., A. H. EVANS, H. W. FINLINSON, H. GOODCHILD, W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT (*Editor*), G. E. LODGE, E. G. B. MEADE-WALDO, E. S. MONTAGU, H. MUNT, T. H. NEWMAN, T. PARKIN, THEED PEARSE, C. E. PEARSON, H. J. PEARSON, H. L. POPHAM, A. E. PRICE, W. P. PYCRAFT, R. H. READ, C. B. RICKETT, J. SARGENT, HOWARD SAUNDERS, F. C. SELOUS, D. SETH-SMITH, W. B. TEGETMEIER, C. B. TICEHURST, S. J. WHITE, L. A. WILLIAMS, E. A. WILSON, M.B., H. F. WITHERBY (*Secretary & Treasurer*).

Visitors: S. A. DAVIES, W. ILBERT, W. L. S. LOAT, A. WARDLE.

Dr. SCLATER exhibited a specimen of Dubus' Hawk-Eagle (*Eutolmaëtus spilogaster*) which had been forwarded to him by Mr. W. L. Sclater for identification. The bird had been obtained on the Zambesi on the 26th February, 1904, by Dr. Stocher, and presented by him to the South African Museum. Dr. Sclater stated that there could be no doubt that it was a fully adult male of this rather scarce species, which had been originally described from an Abyssinian specimen, but was now known to extend all down the eastern side of Africa into Rhodesia. In the series now in the British Museum there were specimens from Abyssinia, Somaliland (*Hawker*), British East Africa (*Johnston*), Nyasaland (*Manning*), and Mashonaland (*Darling*).

Mr. W. L. S. Loat was introduced by Dr. Sclater to the Members of the Club, and exhibited a series of Blue-throated Robins, mostly belonging to the forms known as *Erithacus cæruleculus* (Pall.) and *E. cyaneculus* (Wolf). With the exception of one specimen procured to the south of Wady Halfa, all were collected in the delta of the Nile, at Wady Natron, and on a patch of cultivated ground close to the north side of Lake Menzaleh, a few miles from Damietta. *E. cyaneculus* was only represented by one fully adult male specimen, and was apparently extremely rare; all the remaining specimens were probably referable to *E. cæruleculus*, which was represented in all stages of plumage.

Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant exhibited pairs of two species of Woodpecker, viz.:—*Chrysocolaptes gutticristatus* (Tickell) and *Tiga shorei* (Vigors), collected by Captain A. Mears at Mingin, Upper Chindwin.

He pointed out that both in their colours and markings these species resembled one another so closely that, at the first glance, one might easily mistake one for the other. A more careful examination, however, revealed the fact that the species, though superficially so alike, were structurally very distinct and belonged to different genera, the former possessing four toes, the latter only three.

Mr. Grant thought that these birds, belonging to widely different sections of the same family, afforded a remarkable instance of unintentional mimicry, caused, no doubt, by the influence of the same local surroundings. He was not aware that the striking similarity between the two species had been previously noticed or remarked on. *G. gutticristatus* extended from Dehra Dun through the lower ranges of the Himalayas into India, and beyond the Bay of Bengal southwards to Singapore and to Cochin China. *T. shorei* had a more restricted range, but was also found in the lower valleys of the Himalayas from Dehra Dun to Bhután and thence southward to Upper Pegu.

Mr. GRANT also exhibited an adult female example of the rare *Garrulus oatesi*, Sharpe, collected by Capt. A. Mears at Kalaikbin, Pondaung, Chindwin.

Mr. GRANT also described a new species of Whistling-Thrush discovered by Mr. H. C. Robinson in Selangore:—

MYIOPHONEUS ROBINSONI, sp. n.

Adult male. Most nearly allied to *M. cyaneus*, from which it differs in having the greater part of the bill yellow, only the ridge and tip of the culmen being blackish, and the basal portion of the feathers of the underparts pure white. General colour above and below black slightly glossed with purple, the feathers of the chest with shining tips; lesser wing-coverts purplish-blue, forming a conspicuous patch.

Total length about 10·0 inches, culmen 1·2, wing 5·4, tail 3·9, tarsus 1·8.

Hab. Gunung Menkuanghebah, Selangore, 1st February, 1905.

Mr. T. PARKIN, on behalf of Mr. H. H. J. PRATT, exhibited three "semi-detached" nests of the Song-Thrush (*Turdus musicus*) which had been built on a beam in a lodge at Highfield, Seddlescombe, Sussex, in April 1904. Only one of the nests had been completed and contained young birds when found.

Mr. HOWARD SAUNDERS exhibited an adult male example of the Eider Duck (*Somateria mollissima*) obtained by Mr. Abel Chapman at Holy Island in January 1898. The bird was somewhat remarkable in having the black v-shaped mark characteristic of *S. v-nigrum* faintly indicated on the throat.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held, in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Union, on Wednesday, the 24th of May, 1905, at the Frascati Restaurant, at 7.30 P.M. Members of the Club intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Witherby, at 326 High Holborn, W.C.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, *Chairman.*	W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, *Editor.*	H. F. WITHERBY, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CXVI.

The hundred and fifteenth Meeting of the Club was held, in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the British Ornithologists' Union, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 24th of May, 1905.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—E. Bidwell, Colonel C. T. Bingham, J. L. Bonhote, W. F. Brockholes, W. C. J. Ruskin Butterfield, H. E. Dresser, Rev. & Hon. Canon F. G. Dutton, Earl of Gainsborough, J. Gerrard, H. Goodchild, E. Hartert, Ph.D., C. E. Hellmayr, W. L. S. Loat, G. E. Lodge, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, E. S. Montagu, H. Munt, F. Nicholson, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant (*Editor*), T. Parkin, H. J. Pearson, F. G. Penrose, M.D., A. E. Price, W. P. Pycraft, R. H. Read, C. B. Rickett, Howard Saunders, F. C. Selous, D. Seth-Smith, C. B. Ticehurst, N. F. Ticehurst, M.D., A. Trevor-Battye, H. F. Witherby (*Secretary & Treasurer*).

Visitor: Capt. Corbett.

Mr. W. Ruskin Butterfield exhibited a male specimen of the western form of the Black-eared Chat (*Saxicola albicollis catarinæ,* Whitaker), shot near Hove, Sussex, on May 22nd, 1905. It was examined in the flesh on the following day by Mr. Butterfield. The present example forms the second reported occurrence of this bird in the British Islands (*cf.* Bull. B. O. Club, xii. no. xc. p. 78, 1902).

Mr. E. Bidwell then made the following remarks:—

"A short time ago I purchased at Messrs. Stevens' Auction Rooms a box of stone carvings, fossil bones, pottery, &c., which had been collected by the late Mr. Archibald Carlyle, who was for many years engaged on the Archæological Survey of India. I had previously noticed in the 'lot' a small tin box bearing a label 'Fossil Egg-shell? Nullas, Kaui River, Banda.' To my surprise I found the contents were fragments of the egg of a Struthious bird. After submitting my find to Dr. C. W. Andrews, of the British Museum, I placed portions of the egg-shell in the hands of Mr. W. P. Pycraft, and asked his kind assistance in working out its composition. The pliocene of the Sewalik Hills in India has yielded the remains of an Ostrich-like bird. In 1857 a fossil egg was found in the Government of Kherson in Southern Russia, and at the end of last century two eggs were dug out of a bank near Kalgan, about 140 miles from Pekin."

Mr. W. P. Pycraft supplemented Mr. Bidwell's remarks by a short account of the result of a microscopical examination of this shell, which appeared to be undoubtedly a fragment of the egg-shell of a Struthious bird akin to the modern Ostriches (*Struthio*). In certain particulars, however, it appeared to be peculiar. Mr. Pycraft pointed out that before this could be definitely settled further investigation was necessary. At the same time, he hoped to be able to make a thorough examination of the structure of the egg-shell in all the Struthious birds, since the facts brought to light during his preliminary observations seemed to show that the accounts so far published on the subject were not altogether reliable.

Mr. C. E. Hellmayr described a new species of Tyrant from Brazil as follows:—

Phyllomyias reiseri, n. sp.

Nearly allied to *P. virescens* (Temm.) (=*burmeisteri*, Cab. & Heine), from which it differs in its much smaller size and in having the forehead ashy-grey, the back decidedly yellowish-green (not dull olive-greenish), the under surface paler yellow, the fore-neck being slightly mixed with whitish, and the yellow wing-bands rather broader. In the ashy-grey forehead it agrees with *P. venezuelensis*, Hartert, but the latter species is considerably larger, has the back dull olive-greenish and the wing-bands decidedly paler, more yellowish-white. In form and in the colour of the bill the new species agrees with its two allies, the bill being only somewhat smaller. Upper mandible blackish, lower whitish. The tarsi and toes much shorter and weaker than in *P. virescens* and *P. venezuelensis*.

Wing 54, tail 50½, tarsus 14½, bill 9 mm.

Type in the Vienna Museum: ♂ ad. Grotão, on the way from S. Antonio to S. Philomena, State of Piauhy, N.E. Brazil, 7 July, 1903. Collected by Mr. Othmar Reiser (No. 1063).

This novelty forms part of the collections brought together by the expedition of the Vienna Academy of Science to N.E. Brazil. It is named in honour of Mr. Othmar Reiser, who accompanied the party as ornithologist.

Mr. Hellmayr also remarked:—

"I take this opportunity to correct a mistake. At the meeting of this Club in March 1904, I exhibited a specimen of *Copurus funebris* from South Brazil and declared this species to be quite different from *C. colonus*. I regret to say, I had then entirely overlooked the remarks by Count Berlepsch (Journ. f. Ornith. 1873, pp. 256–258) on the same subject. Lately, I have been able to compare the large series in the

Museum of Count v. Berlepsch, and I convinced myself that *C. funebris* is nothing but the young of *C. colonus.* The Count possesses one specimen in the exact plumage described by me (Bull. B. O. C. xiv. no. cv. p. 61, 1904); but on the rump there is a white feather to be seen! Hence there cannot be the slightest doubt that the name *C. funebris* must be suppressed."

Dr. ERNST HARTERT exhibited examples of three new African birds, which he described as follows:—

DIAPHOROPHYIA ANSORGEI, n. sp.

♀ *ad. Diaphorophyia* supra olivaceo-grisea; gutture, jugulo pectoreque rufo-castaneis; abdomine toto et mento læte flavis.

Upperside grey, washed with olive-green. Wings slate-grey; outer edges of quills like the back, inner webs yellowish-white, secondaries narrowly tipped with white. A narrow line across the forehead and extending to the eyes pale yellow. Rectrices dark slate-grey, with a greenish metallic gloss. Chin yellow, whole throat and breast rufous-chestnut, entire abdomen and under tail-coverts bright yellow. "Iris dark brown, with the inner edge bright yellow. Feet of the palest pink flesh-colour. Bill black. Broad fleshy circle around each eye bright emerald-green." Wing 55·5, tail 26·5, tarsus about 15 (damaged by shot), culmen 14 mm.

Hab. Cabeça de Ladrões in Benguella, 29. vii. 1904, collected by Dr. W. J. Ansorge. Type, no. 467, in Mus. Tring.

A single female of this very remarkable little Flycatcher was obtained. It is named in honour of Dr. Ansorge, who made in Angola extensive and valuable collections, which are now in the Tring Museum.

ANTHOSCOPUS ANSORGEI, n. sp.

♂ *ad. Anthoscopus* fronte usque ad oculos flava, plus minusve fusco punctulata; notæo reliquo flavescenti-viridi; gastræo toto sordide albicante.

The whole forehead as far as the hinder margin of the eyes sulphur-yellow, more or less spotted with blackish-brown tips to the feathers. Rest of upper surface yellowish-green. Wings and tail blackish-brown, with yellowish-green outer edges. Entire under surface dirty white, rather greyer on the throat, more cream-coloured on the abdomen. "Iris dark brown. Feet slate-blue. Bill bluish-grey, with whitish-grey edges." Wing about 54–58, tail about 29, tarsus about 14·5, bill (culmen) 9 mm.

♀ *ad.* Like the male, but the forehead is greener.

A series of specimens was collected by Dr. W. J. Ansorge in various parts of Angola (Bihé, Benguella). It contained male, female, and immature examples. All these were dirty white underneath, and not "pale yellow tinged with green." It is true that Captain Shelley described a form of these Tits under the name of *A. camaroonensis,* a form which he said differed from *A. flavifrons* in having the under surface "buff." His single type, however, shows a distinct yellow tinge on the abdomen and is not like the Angolan form, which lacks all yellow.

Hab. Mangonga River, Benguella, 15. xii. 1904. Type ♂, no. 912, Ansorge Coll. in Mus. Tring.—Probably *A. flavifrons, A. ansorgei,* and others will have to rank as subspecies of one group, but at present very little is known concerning their distribution.

ANTHOSCOPUS SHARPEI, n. sp.

Ad. Anthoscopus haud dissimilis forma *A. caroli* dicta, sed supra obscurior, et abdomine pectoreque usque ad gulam (non abdomine tantum) ochraceis facile distinguendus. Al. 59, caud. 20 mm.

The darker upper surface and the extent of the ochraceous colour on the underside at once distinguish this bird from *A. caroli.* Size as in *A. caroli.*

Hab. Usambiro, south of Victoria Nyanza.

Type. Usambiro, 8. ix. 1889, collected by Emin Pasha: in Mus. Tring.

Mr. D. SETH-SMITH exhibited a specimen of the rare African Pigeon *Columba unicincta,* Cassin, shot by his brother, Mr. L. M. Seth-Smith, near Entebbe, Uganda. The type of this species, from the River Ogowai, is in the Museum of the Philadelphia Academy; a second specimen, a female from Liberia, is in the Leyden Museum; the third, shot at Diapanda, a Suaheli settlement in the Great African Forest, in 1900, is in the Tring Museum; a fourth, an adult female, was procured at Efulen, Camaroons, in 1903, by Mr. G. L. Bates. Mr. Seth-Smith's specimen, which is a male, is believed to be the fifth example known.

Mr. H. E. Dresser exhibited a nest containing four eggs, together with the skin of the parent bird, of *Cossypha gutturalis.* It was received from Mr. H. O. Whittall, of Smyrna, who writes that he was on the mountains near that town about the 2nd of May, and, seeing a pair of these birds, hired a native to find the nest and to bring it to him. Strangely enough, the nest was built in a low bush, barely six yards from the native's tent. The birds commenced to build their nest about the 8th of May and the female laid an egg every day until the 14th inst. Seeing that it had ceased laying, the native shot both the old birds and brought them, together with the nest and eggs, to Mr. Whittall. The female was too much damaged to skin, so only the skin of the male was sent. Mr. Whittall could not himself take the nest, as the mountains are extremely unsafe.

Mr. Robert H. Read called attention to a nest of the Red-legged Partridge containing three eggs which he had observed in Somersetshire on April 29. This was the first nest of this bird he had ever seen in that county, although of late years it had been gradually extending its range westwards. Five days later the nest contained only two additional eggs, but within less than two feet of it a common Grey Partridge had nested and laid three eggs. During the next five days the Red-leg laid three more eggs and in the four following days it added two more. The Grey bird in the meanwhile had laid no more eggs, having possibly been driven away by its more combative rival. It is well known that the Red-leg is a very irregular layer and seldom lays an egg every day.

Mr. Read also gave an instance of the fact that a sitting Partridge has no scent, or at all events not the same scent which it has during the shooting-season. Accompanied by a friend with a magnificent pointer, they entered a field where a Partridge was sitting on its nest in a small tussock. Although they took the dog many times past the tussock, both up and down wind, it took not the slightest notice of the bird.

Dr. Hartert stated that this curious fact of game-birds having no scent when breeding had been noticed by various German writers of sporting books.

Mr. Trevor-Battye said he could corroborate this fact, a "chow" dog which he possessed behaving in a similar way in the case of a sitting Partridge, although otherwise it was very keen in finding birds' nests.

Mr. Witherby stated that a few days previously he had found a Pheasant's nest in an open heath, and from the feathers round the nest and sucked eggs he concluded that it had been destroyed by a fox. It seemed to him probable that the latter had found the sitting bird by scent. An unbroken egg was fresh.

Mr. Meade-Waldo remarked that on the day the eggs of a Partridge or Pheasant hatched there was a strong scent, possibly from the young birds, and that great numbers were destroyed by foxes and other vermin just as they were hatching.

The Earl of Gainsborough observed that his old friend Grantley Berkeley fully 40 years ago had called his attention to the fact that sitting game-birds had no scent*.

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* [Two somewhat similar instances of Blackcocks apparently devoid of scent and able to evade the dogs in search of them may be of interest:—

It was desired to procure certain moulting Blackcocks in hen-like plumage in the beginning of August, but after nearly a fortnight's work, with good dogs, only two were procured, though it was known that plenty of birds were on the ground.

While driving some birch-woods for Blackgame, a Blackcock was seen to pitch in front of the guns and run into a small clump of bramble and bracken. This spot was subsequently worked by an excellent setter without result, but as the "guns" moved away, the bird having apparently gone, it was seen to leave the other side of the bramble-patch and fly off.—Ed.]

Mr. Read also remarked that he had lately examined a nest with three newly hatched young of the Tawny Owl, but that on looking at it five days later two of the young had disappeared and only the head of the third remained in the nest. He thought it probable that the old birds had removed the two young elsewhere, and eaten the third, as he was certain no human being had touched them.

Mr. Trevor-Battye said he knew of a case which seemed to prove the fact that Owls do move their young. A Short-eared Owl's nest contained two young, but a short time afterwards one was found near the nest, the other on the other side of the common about 200 yards away.

Mr. W. L. S. Loat exhibited a clutch of white eggs of the Hedge-Sparrow (*Accentor modularis*), among which a Cuckoo had placed an egg. The nest had been found by Mr. Griffin at Lamberhurst, Kent, on the 30th May, 1895, and had since that date been in the possession of the exhibitor.

Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant described a new species of Shrike collected by Mr. G. W. Bury in South Arabia :—

Lanius arabicus, n. sp.

Adult male and female. Most nearly allied to *L. algeriensis*, Lesson, but may be at once distinguished by having the chin and throat grey like the breast instead of white.

Total length about 8·7 inches; wing 4·0–4·2; tail 4·0–4·25; tarsus 1·2.

Hab. Amiri District, South Arabia.

A very large series collected by Mr. G. W. Bury in the Amiri District, to the east of the Yemen frontier, shows practically no variation.

Mr. Ogilvie-Grant also described a new species of Weka Rail from Stewart Island, New Zealand :—

Ocydromus scotti, n. sp.

Adult male (type of the species). Most nearly allied to *O. earli*, G. R. Gray, but may be at once distinguished by its much smaller size, and by having the general colour of the plumage of the upper parts chestnut and black. Feathers of the top of the head, hind-neck, mantle, inner scapulars, and innermost secondaries black, widely margined on the sides with chestnut; primary and secondary quills, wing-coverts, and outer scapulars black, with bars or wedge-shaped marks of chestnut along the margins; marginal coverts uniform reddish-brown; lower back and rump uniform dark chestnut-brown; upper tail-coverts and tail-feathers black, the terminal half margined and the basal half barred with chestnut; a short whitish eyebrow-stripe extending from the lores to above the eye; chin, cheeks, and throat greyish; *fore-neck and chest chestnut, spotted wilh black* (in this respect somewhat resembling immature specimens of *O. earli*); middle of the breast and belly greyish-brown, shading into dull greyish-rufous on the sides and flanks, some of the feathers of the former with the middle barred with chestnut and black; under tail-coverts chestnut barred with black. Upper mandible slaty-brown; lower mandible flesh-colour at the base, slate-colour towards the tip; legs red, darkish brown on the hinder aspect of the tarsus.

Total length in the flesh 18 inches; culmen 1·8; wing to end of secondaries 6·5; tail 4·6; tarsus 2·15.

Male (type). Port Pegasus, Stewart Island, New Zealand, 8th October, 1899. Weight 22¾ oz. Obtained by Commander R. F. Ayscough, R.N., H.M.S. 'Ringdove.'

"The specimen was shot when feeding along the beach (wooded), close to the water's edge."—R. F. A.

Adult female similar to the male.

Eight examples of *Ocydromus* procured by Dr. E. A. Wilson on the Macquarie Islands undoubtedly belong to this species, and are no doubt the descendants of birds imported there from Stewart Island.

Dr. Wilson has kindly furnished me with coloured sketches showing the soft parts of the adult males and females procured in November on the Macquarie Islands:—Iris red; bill reddish towards the base, dusky along the culmen, and inclining to blackish at the tip; legs and feet reddish flesh-colour, tarsi brown on the hinder aspect.

There are four examples of this species in the Tring Museum, two from Stewart Island and two from the Macquarie Islands.

Mr. Ogilvie-Grant also pointed out that two species of Flycatchers of the genus *Pseudogerygone* are met with in New Zealand—one, *P. flaviventris* (G. R. Gray), apparently inhabiting both the North and South Islands; the other, *P. igata* (Q. & G.), being probably confined to the South Island.

Several examples of the latter sent home by Lord Ranfurly from Dusky Sound, South Island, proved to be new to the Museum Collection.

Pseudogerygone igata (Quoy & Gaimard).

Curruca igata, Quoy et Gaim. Voy. de l'Astrol., Zool. i. p. 201, pl. xi. fig. 2 (1830).

Gerygone flaviventris, Buller, B. New Zealand, i. pts. iv.–vi. p. 44 [part.] pl. ii. (1888).

a. ♂ adult. Dusky Sound, South Island, New Zealand. March 1901. Ranfurly Coll.

b, c. Adult. Dusky Sound, South Island, June and July. Ranfurly Coll.

The South Island "Warbler" has the iris, bill, and legs black (*R. Henry*).

The Flycatchers of the genus *Pseudogerygone* from the North and South Islands, though apparently perfectly distinct from one another, have been included under one heading by Sir Walter Buller, and by ornithologists generally. Previous to the arrival of the birds sent home by Lord Ranfurly from South Island, the British Museum did not possess examples of the true *P. igata,* and, as will be seen from the lists given below, all the specimens in the collection appear to have been procured in the North Island. *P. igata* may be distinguished from *P. flaviventris,* G. R. Gray, by the lighter olive-brown colour of the upper parts, which shades into a warmer tint on the rump and upper tail-coverts, by having the axillaries, sides, flanks, and under tail-coverts strongly washed with yellow, and the subterminal white bar on the outer pairs of tail-feathers somewhat wider. *The iris is black.*

Of three adult examples of this species in the Tring Museum only one is marked " Dunedin, *iris dark*."

In *P. flaviventris* the general colour above is dark olive-brown with a more olive tinge on the lower back and rump, the entire under parts are grey, whitish on the axillaries and middle of the belly, and very faintly tinged with yellowish on the flanks and under tail-coverts. *The iris is red.*

The synonymy of this species is as follows :—

PSEUDOGERYGONE FLAVIVENTRIS.

Gerygone flaviventris, G. R. Gray, Voy. Ereb. & Terror, Birds, p. 5, pl. iv. fig. 1 (1844) ; Sharpe, t. c. Appendix, p. 25 (1875).

Gerygone aucklandica, Pelz. Reise Novara, Vög. p. 65 (1865).

Gerygone sylvestris, Potts, Tr. N. Zeal. Inst. v. p. 177 (1873).

Pseudogerygone igata, Sharpe (nec Q. & G.), Cat. B. Brit. Mus. iv. p. 218 (1879).

Gerygone flaviventris, Buller, B. New Zeal. i. p. 44 [part.] (1888).

The following specimens are in the British Museum :—

a. Adult [juv. sk. *fide* Sharpe]. Bay of Islands, North Island, New Zealand (*Lieut. A. Smith*). Voyage of the 'Erebus' and 'Terror.'
Type of the species. [42.12.16. 39.]

b, c. Adult. Bay of Islands (*Lieut. A. Smith*). Voyage of the 'Erebus' and 'Terror.' [43.9.16. 11 & 12.]

d, e. ♂ ♀ adult. [North Island] (*F. Strange*).
Presented by Capt. Stokes, R.N.

f. Adult. [North Island.] Zoological Society's Collection.

Though unable to trace the history of specimen "*f*," I am probably justified in regarding it as having come from North Island, as it is precisely similar to the specimens "*a–c*"; specimens "*d* & *e*" are likewise almost certainly from the

North Island, but I have been unable to obtain any satisfactory proof of this.

Dr. Sharpe [Zoology of the 'Erebus' and 'Terror,' Appendix, p. 25 (1875)] states that in company with Dr. Oustalet he had examined the type of *Geryygone igata*, which still existed in the Jardin des Plantes, and had come to the conclusion that it was distinct from *G. flaviventris*. Subsequently, however, when writing the Catalogue of Birds, he appears to have changed his mind, and come to the conclusion that the names were synonymous.

There can, I think, be no doubt that *G. sylvestris*, Potts, from Westland, South Island, is synonymous with the present species. As in *P. flaviventris*, the *iris is red.*

Mr. Ogilvie-Grant further pointed out that two species of *Acanthidositta* occur in New Zealand and had been united by Sir Walter Buller under the name of *A. chloris*. Thanks to the specimens sent home by Lord Ranfurly, it was now clear that *A. chloris* (Sparrm.) and *A. citrina* (Gmel.) were perfectly distinct species, and should be distinguished as follows:—

Acanthidositta chloris.

Sitta chloris Sparrm. Mus. Carls. no. 33, pl. 33 (1787).

Acanthisitta chloris, Finsch, Trans. New Zeal. Inst. vii. p. 227 (1875).

Acanthidositta chloris Sclater, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xiv. p. 451 (1888) [part.].

a, b. ♂ adult. Avondale Station, Marlborough, South I., New Zealand (*C. G. Teschemaker*). Ranfurly Coll.

c–e. ♂ adult et ♂ pull. (in spirits). Avondale Station, Marlborough, South I., New Zealand (*C. G. T.*). Ranfurly Coll.*

The *adult male*, contrary to what has been generally believed, has the forehead and fore part of the crown red olive-brown, shading into olive-green on the hinder part of the crown and upper parts. The wing in six specimens measures 1·85–1·9 inch; tarsus 0·75.

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* All the specimens in spirits were said to have been collected by Mr. C. G. Teschemaker at Avondale Station; but possibly some mistake has been made.

In the *adult female* the crown is olive-green like the rest of the upper parts, only the feathers at the base of the bill inclining to olive-brown. The wing measures 1·9 inch; tarsus 0·73.

Young birds have the upper parts olive-green like the adult, only the feathers of the crown and nape being pale brown with marginal streaks of blackish, and the chin, throat, and breast more faintly spotted with brown than in the young of *A. citrina*.

I have examined four specimens in this stage of plumage, two being young males preserved in spirits, sent with their male parent from Marlborough.

ACANTHIDOSITTA CITRINA (Gmel.).

Citrine Warbler, Lath. Gen. Syn. ii. pt. ii. p. 464 (1783) [Dusky Bay, N. Z.].

Motacilla citrina, Gmel. Syst. Nat. i. p. 979 (1788, ex Lath.).

Acanthisitta citrina, Finsch, Trans. New Zeal. Inst. vii. p. 228 (1875).

Acanthidositta chloris, Sclater, Cat. B. Brit. Mus. xiv. p. 451 (1888) [part.].

a. ♂ adult. Dusky Sound, Otago Dist., South I., New Zealand, March 1901. Ranfurly Coll.

b, c. ♀ adult et ♂ pull. (in spirits). Avondale Station, Marlborough, South I., New Zealand (*C. G. Teschemaker*). Ranfurly Coll.*

This species has been generally confounded with the closely allied form *A. chloris*, Sparrm., but the *adult male* may be at once recognized by the wide and strongly defined white eyebrow stripe and by having the mantle and back of a bright sap-green colour, the rump and upper tail-coverts yellow, faintly tinged with greenish, but contrasting strongly with the back, and the sides, flanks, and under tail-coverts bright yellow. Iris and bill black, legs brown, feet light yellow. Size larger than in *A. chloris*. Wing 2·05–2·1 inches; tarsus 0·81.

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* See note on p. 82.

The *adult female* differs chiefly from the female of *A. chloris* in having the feathers of the head and nape light brown with marginal streaks of black (as in the immature bird); the superciliary stripe white and very strongly defined; the back dark olive-brown, indistinctly streaked with blackish in younger birds; the rump and upper tail-coverts brownish-yellow. Wing 1·95–2·0 inches; tarsus 0·8.

Young birds may be distinguished from the young of *A. chloris* by having less green on the upper parts, only the rump and outer margins of the quills being tinged with olive. The pale brown black-edged feathers, confined to the head and nape in the young of *A. chloris, extend over the back* in the present species, and the spotting on the throat and breast is much bolder.

This difference in plumage cannot be dependent on sex; for Mr. W. P. Pycraft has ascertained, from an examination of three young birds in spirits of about the same age, that one specimen with the entire back striped and two with the back olive-green are males.

In 1875 Dr. Finsch (*op. cit.*) indicated the fact that *A. citrina* (Gmel.) was distinct from *A. chloris* (Sparrm.), and to some extent he pointed out the distinguishing characters of the female of the former, as well as the difference in size. Sir Walter Buller did not believe in these differences [*cf.* B. New Zealand, i. p. 114 (1888)], but apparently Dr. Finsch was right.

Mr. Ogilvie-Grant stated that, with a view to augmenting the funds of the Club, he had caused a series of Picture Post-cards to be printed from photographs taken by Mr. R. B. Lodge from the nesting-groups of British Birds in the Natural History Museum. After paying initial expenses, he proposed to hand over all the proceeds to Mr. Witherby to meet expenses in connection with the work of the B. O. C. Migration Committee, Kite-Fund, &c. Each packet of cards contained thirteen excellent pictures, price 1*s*. The packets might be obtained from Mr. Witherby, 326 High Holborn, W.C., from himself at the Natural History Museum, S.W., or at the Zoological Society's Offices, 3 Hanover Square, W., and during the Ornithological Congress they would be on sale at the Secretaries' Office at the Imperial Institute.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 28th of June, 1905, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 P.M. Members of the Club intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Witherby, at 326 High Holborn, W.C.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

P. L. SCLATER, *Chairman.* W. R. OGILVIE-GRANT, *Editor.* H. F. WITHERBY, *Sec. & Treas.*

BULLETIN

OF THE

BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB.

No. CXVII.

The hundred and sixteenth Meeting of the Club was held at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street, on Wednesday, the 28th of June, 1905.

Before the Dinner a meeting of the Committee was held, at which it was agreed that an Index to the first fifteen volumes of the 'Bulletin' should be prepared and published as a separate volume.

Chairman: P. L. Sclater, F.R.S.

Members present:—J. L. Bonhote, C. Collier, H. E. Dresser, F. D. Drewitt, M.D., A. H. Evans, H. Goodchild, E. Hartert, Ph.D., C. E. Hellmayr, C. Ingram, E. G. B. Meade-Waldo, J. G. Millais, H. Munt, M. J. Nicoll, W. R. Ogilvie-Grant (*Editor*), Theed Pearse, F. G. Penrose, M.D., Major F. W. Proctor, W. P. Pycraft, J. Sargeant, H. Scherren, F. Sharman, R. Bowdler Sharpe, LL.D., D. Seth-Smith, Colonel C. Swinhoe, C. B. Ticehurst, W. B. Tegetmeier, Capt. H. J. Walton, I.M.S., C. Whymper, L. A. Williams, H. F. Witherby (*Secretary & Treasurer*).

Guests of the Club: Dr. V. Bianchi, Dr. J. Dwight, J. H. Fleming, W. Foster, Prof. H. H. Giglioli.

Visitors: A. L. Butler, F. Griffiths.

[*July* 10*th*, 1905.]   VOL. XV.

Smithsonian Institution,

The CHAIRMAN stated that, before commencing the ordinary business of the Meeting, he had the sorrowful task of announcing the recent loss of three members of the B. O. C., all of them well known in ornithological science—Dr. W. T. Blanford, F.R.S., Lt.-Col. L. H. Irby, and Mr. E. Cavendish Taylor. Dr. Blanford was not a frequent attendant at these meetings, but his name was familiar to those who were interested in the Birds of British India, Persia, and Abyssinia, in all of which countries he had done excellent work. Col. Irby's principal scene of action had been Southern Spain and Morocco, and his 'Ornithology of the Straits of Gibraltar' (of which a second edition was published in 1895) would long remain the chief authority on the very interesting Avifauna of those countries. Mr. E. Cavendish Taylor was an accomplished student of Palæarctic Birds, especially of the winter-visitants to Egypt and Italy, but had also visited the West Indies and Tropical America, and, during his many journeys, had never failed to pay attention to the birds that he met with. Mr. Taylor had bequeathed his small but valuable collection of Birds and Eggs, which were principally collected by himself, to the British Museum.

Major F. W. PROCTOR announced the occurrence of the Waxwing (*Ampelis garrulus*) in Berkshire, a pair of birds having been seen at Maidenhead Thicket on the 11th of April.

Major Proctor also made remarks on the abundance of the Lesser Redpoll (*Linota rufescens*) in Berkshire in 1905, and exhibited some nests and eggs of this species.

Mr. MEADE-WALDO remarked that the species was comparatively common this year in the south of England, breeding sporadically in some numbers. He had seen a brood of young birds on the 24th June in Kent and about six weeks earlier had known of several nests.

Mr. W. B. TEGETMEIER exhibited the remains of a

Blackbird (*Turdus merula*) which had been taken from the intestinal canal of a Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*).

Mr. Tegetmeier also made remarks on the scentless nature of birds when sitting on their nests, which had been discussed at the previous Meeting of the Club in May [*cf.* Bull. B. O. C. No. cxvi. pp. 72, 73]. He stated that the physiological explanation of this fact was well known and that the vicarious secretions causing the scent were retained within the body in sitting birds and passed into the cloaca, being eventually voided with the fæces. He contended that the odour of the fæces dropped by a sitting bird was totally different from that passed at other times, their particularly offensive smell being caused by these secretions.

Mr. W. P. **Pycraft** said that he did not think that Mr. Tegetmeier's explanation could be accepted as satisfactory, and that the long retention of the fæces within the cloaca would naturally account for their more objectionable odour.

It was further pointed out by Mr. H. F. **Witherby** that Mr. Tegetmeier's observations did not account for the instances of scentless birds which were not nesting, also cited at the previous meeting of the Club.

Mr. J. G. **Millais** exhibited some hybrids of surface-feeding Ducks which had been bred by Sir Richard Graham at Netherby in Cumberland. He remarked that some species which were closely allied were found to mate freely, while others were difficult to cross and their eggs were frequently unfertile. The birds exhibited included certain rarities, such as: Sheld-Duck × Mallard; Gadwall × Mallard; Gadwall × Wigeon × Wigeon; ♂ Wigeon × Pintail × ♀ Pintail × Mallard. It was observed that first crosses generally conformed to two different types, and that these birds, especially the males, sometimes exhibited curious colours not found in the corresponding parts of either parent.

Mr. J. L. **Bonhote** remarked that he had known one or two instances, or supposed instances, of Sheld-Duck

× Mallard, but had noticed that in colour, at all events, the hybrids were remarkably like the Mallard. As regards the example of the Gadwall × Mallard, apart from the red cheeks which Mr. Millais had pointed out, it was of interest to note that the position of the white ring of the Mallard was clearly marked in this specimen by one of a metallic green.

Mr. C. E. Hellmayr exhibited examples of two new species of Neotropical birds, which he described as follows:—

Tanagrella velia signata, n. subsp.

Similar to *T. velia iridina* (Hartl.), which it resembles in the purple-blue colour on the sides of the head and on the margins of the wing- and tail-feathers, but it is at once distinguished by having a distinct ochreous-silvery spot on the anterior part of the crown, just behind the purple-blue forehead. In this character it agrees with *T. cyanomelæna* (Wied) from S.E. Brazil, which, however, differs in having the underparts bluish-grey.

Wing 70, tail 50, tarsus 16, bill 11 mm.

Type in Tring Museum: ♂ ad. Pará, N.E. Brazil; collected by Prof. Steere.

A female obtained by the same collector resembles the male, but has the spot on the crown a little more mixed with ochreous.

Todirostrum fumifrons penardi, n. subsp.

Similar to *T. fumifrons*, Hartl., from Bahia, but differs in the following particulars:—the back is pure green (not yellowish- or brownish-green), and the crown shows no trace of the brownish suffusion so conspicuous in the typical form; the yellowish tips to the upper wing-coverts are decidedly smaller and paler, and the cheeks and ear-coverts pale brownish-grey (not isabelline), only the lores being pale yellowish-buff.

Wing 44, tail 33½, tarsus 18, bill 13½ mm.

Type in Tring Museum: ♀ ad. Near Paramaribo, Surinam, March 3rd, 1905; collected by Mr. Chunkoo. No. S. 56.

This is evidently the northern representative of *T. fumi-*

frons, Hartl., which is only known from Bahia. Both forms should be placed in the genus *Todirostrum*, since they agree in the shape of the bill with the typical species.

Dr. Bowdler Sharpe exhibited a nest of *Paradisea raggiana*, together with a nestling bird of the same species; he stated that this was probably the first instance of a nestling Bird-of-Paradise having been sent to Europe. The specimens had been obtained by Capt. Barton, H.B.M. Governor of British New Guinea.

Dr. V. Bianchi made the following remarks:—

In working out the ornithological materials of Mr. Koslow's expedition I noticed that the dark-bellied Dippers collected by the above-named gentleman, as well as those brought home by the expeditions of Przewalski and Roborowski, did not agree with the description of the most nearly allied species, *C. sordidus*, Gould. Thanks to the kindness of Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe and Mr. Walter Rothschild, I have lately been enabled to compare my specimen with Gould's type in the British Museum, and with a very fine bird in good plumage (♂, xii. 1900, south of Issyk-kul, Russian Turkestan, *Tancré*) in the Tring Museum. The bird from Eastern Tibet proves to represent a very distinct species, differing from all the Dippers with dark underparts in having the back and rump grey (instead of brown) with very distinct black squamations. I propose to name this form

Cinclus przewalskii, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Top and sides of the head, hind-neck and adjacent part of the interscapular region clove-brown (Ridgway, Nom. Col. pl. iii. 2), without any greyish tinge; posterior portion of the interscapular region, back, rump, upper tail-coverts, scapulars, and lesser wing-coverts slate-grey, with black margins, forming very distinct squamations; greater wing-coverts, quills, and tail-feathers, including the under tail-coverts, as well as the sides of breast and abdomen, greyish-brown; chin, throat, and chest brown, a little paler than the crown and hind-neck, without any greyish tinge, but in marked contrast to the uniform blackish-brown colour of the breast and vent. Culmen 0·79 in. (20 mm.), exposed culmen 0·71 (18 mm.), wing 3·64 (92·5 mm.), tail 2·56 (65 mm.), tarsus 1·18 (30 mm.). Type: ♂ adult, 17–18. iv. (30. iv.–1. v.) 1901, Den-chu, basin of the Upper Yang-tse-kiang. Koslow coll.

Hab. Eastern Tibet: Burkhan-Budda Mts., in the basin of the Hoang-ho (*Przewalski, Roborowski*) and the basin of the Upper Yang-tse-kiang (*Koslow*).

Dr. Bianchi exhibited specimens of the most nearly related forms—i. e., *C. sordidus*, Gould, *C. middendorffi*, Suschkin, 1904, and *C. saturatus*, Dresser, 1895 = *C. bilkewitschi*, Zarudni, 1902 = *C. kiborti*, Madarász, 1903.

Dr. Bianchi also exhibited twelve authentic eggs of the Knot (*Tringa canutus*), together with nestlings, which had been procured on the Taimyr Peninsula and on the New Siberian Islands. In every instance the old birds had been obtained, thus rendering the identification certain.

Captain H. Walton exhibited and described examples of five new species procured during the recent expedition to Lhasa:—

1. **Turtur lhasæ**, n. sp.

T. similis *T. orientali*, sed tectricibus alarum obscure brunneis, pallido griseo vel rufescenti-fulvo anguste marginatis (minime late rufo); interscapulio et colli lateribus cineraceis, nec vinaceo-brunneis; corporis lateribus pallide griseis, nec vinaceis. Long. tot. 13·4 poll., rostri a rictu 0·95, alæ 8·0, caudæ 5·9, tarsi 1·15. [No. 2023 ♂.]

Iride pallide rubra, orbite coccineo: pedibus coccineis: rostro saturate purpurascente, versus apicem corneo.

Hab. Lhasa, Tibet, Aug. 30, 1904.

2. **Cinclus younghusbandi**, n. sp.

♀. Similis *C. sordido*, sed saturatior: plaga gutturali haud definita; gutture, præpectore et pectore toto brunnescentibus; abdomine fuscescenti-brunneo; hypochondriis subcaudalibusque saturate schistaceis: rostro nigro; pedibus saturate brunneis; iride saturate brunnea.

Long. tot. 7·3 poll., rostri a rictu 0·9, alæ 3·8, caudæ 2·35, tarsi 1·05. [No. 153.]

Hab. Khamba Jong, 15,000 feet, Nov. 6, 1903.

3. Anorthura tibetana, n. sp.

♂. Similis *A. nipalensi,* sed major, et subtus grisescentior, nec rufescens; gutture et præpectore sordide cinerascentibus concoloribus, minime rufo lavatis: rostro, pedibus et iride saturate brunneis. Long. tot. 4·65 poll., rostri a rictu 0·6, alæ 2·35, caudæ 1·5, tarsi 0·7. [No. 1747.]

Hab. Khamba Jong, Oct. 9, 1903.

4. Carpodacus lætissimus, n. sp.

♂. Similis *C. erythrino,* sed ubique lætius scarlatinus: *C. grebnitzii,* ut videtur, affinis. ♀ tamen valde differt: similis *C. erythrino* ♀, sed grisescens, tectricibus alarum et secundariis interioribus haud fulvo marginatis; tergo infimo minime olivascente sed dorso reliquo concolori: gutture pure albo; gastræo reliquo grisescente, præpectore fusco maculato. Long. tot. circa 5·2 poll., rostri 0·55, alæ 3·15, caudæ 2·1, tarsi 0·7.

Hab. Lhasa, Sept. 21, 1904 (♀, no. 2058); Chaksam, 12,000 feet, Brahmaputra Valley, July 30, 1904 (♂, no. 1990).

5. Linota rufostrigata, n. sp.

♂. Similis *L. brevirostri,* sed major: rufescentior, gastræo toto magis arenario, plumis medialiter late rufescenti-brunneo striatis; abdomine quoque rufescenti-arenario, minime albo; rectricum externarum albedine interna minus extensa distinguenda. Long. tot. 5·8 poll., rostri a rictu 0·4, alæ 3·3, caudæ 2·8, tarsi 0·65.

Hab. Khamba Jong, Tibet, Oct. 9, 1903. [No. 146.]

Obs. This is a larger and darker bird than *L. brevirostris,* of which the average length of wing is 2·96 inches, whereas in the Tibetan bird the average is 3·15. In my series of seventeen skins the marking of the tail is constant, the white on the inner web of the outer tail-feathers is very much less (about half as much in extent), and the colour of the abdomen and under tail-coverts is not white as in *L. brevirostris,* but strongly rufescent, and the sides of the body have distinct rufescent stripes.

Mr. W. R. Ogilvie-Grant called attention to the birds collected by Colonel Waddell, C.B., who accompanied the recent expedition to Lhasa. Examples of three species procured by that gentleman had passed into the hands of Mr. H. E. Dresser, who, believing them to be new, had exhibited and described them before the Zoological Society of London. Full descriptions and figures of these birds had recently appeared in the 'Proceedings' of the Zoological Society. The species were as follows:—

1. Babax waddelli, Dresser, P. Z. S. 1905, vol. i. p. 54, pl. iv.

Said to be most nearly allied to *B. lanceolatus* (Verr.).

Capt. Walton had also procured examples of this species, which should have been compared with *B. bonvaloti*, Oustalet, procured at So, Tibet [*cf.* Ann. Sci. Nat. Paris, (7) xii. p. 272 (1892)]. Prof. Oustalet had kindly compared one of Captain Walton's specimens with the type of *B. bonvaloti*, and pronounced them to be quite distinct.

The plate in the 'Proceedings' was so badly coloured that it gave an entirely erroneous idea of the bird's appearance, the general colour of the whole plumage, including the crown, being grey.

2. Garrulax tibetanus, Dresser, t. c. p. 54, pl. v. fig. 2.

= *Trochalopteron henrici*, Oustalet, Ann. Sci. Nat. Paris, (7) xii. p. 274 (1892); id. N. Archiv. Mus. Paris, (3) v. pl. iv. fig. (1893).

The bird was obviously a species of *Trochalopteron*, not a *Garrulax*.

3. Lanius lama, Dresser, t. c. p. 55, pl. v. fig. 1.

= *L. tephronotus* (Vigors), P. Z. S. 1831, p. 43.

Mr. Dresser had compared his specimen with *L. schach*, a species to which *L. tephronotus* was not very nearly allied.

The colouring of the plate of this well-known bird in the 'Proceedings' left much to be desired.

Dr. **Ernst Hartert** exhibited a new African bird, which he described as follows:—

Apalis ansorgei, n. sp.

♂ *ad.* Forehead for about 5 mm. and wide superciliary band yellowish-buff, rest of pileum greyish, washed with brownish-yellow. Line through the lores, encircling the eye, and continued in a wide band under the eye to the upper auricular region, black. Rest of the upperparts grey with a faint brownish-buff tinge. Quills dark greyish-brown, outer webs with narrow pale yellow edges; inner secondaries paler, more greyish, and with wider and browner outer edges. Rectrices brownish-grey, edged with pale yellow. Entire throat bright yellow, separated by a black crescent from the breast, which, like the entire abdomen, is white with a faint yellowish tinge. Under tail- and under wing-coverts white, bend of the wing yellow. "Iris dark brown, feet greenish-brown, toes burnt-sienna, bill black." Wing about 61, tail about 47, metatarsus 20, culmen 13 mm.

Hab. Angola.

A single male, in moult, with somewhat worn wings, was obtained at Caiala, Bihé, Angola, on December 4th, 1904, by Dr. W. J. Ansorge. Type no. 4124 in the Tring Museum.

If the genus *Euprinodes* is separated from *Apalis*, then *A. ansorgei* must be placed in the former section.

Dr. **Bowdler Sharpe** described two new species:—

1. **Propasser waltoni**, n. sp.

♂. *P.* similis *P. pulcherrimo* ♂, sed grisescentior: subtus concolor, pectore haud nigro lineato; fronte basali, loris et supercilio lato, facie laterali et regione parotica, mento et gutture, roseis vix margaritaceo nitentibus; corpore subtus læte rosaceo, hypochondriis et subcaudalibus medialiter brunneo anguste striatis: rostro, pedibus et iride saturate brunneis. Long. tot. 5·65 poll., rostri a rictu 0·45, alæ 3·1, caudæ 2·7, tarsi 0·75. [No. 1914.]

♀. Similis *P. pulcherrimo* ♀, sed ubique multo pallidior, plumarum rhachidibus angustioribus. Long. tot. 5·6, alæ 3·0, caud. 2·55, rostri 0·45, tarsi 0·75. [No. 1918.]

Hab. Gyangtse, S. Tibet, April 20, 1904 (*Capt. H. J. Walton*).

2. SUTHORA RIPPONI, n. sp.

Similis *S. craddocki*, sed linea superciliari nigra et plaga auriculari cinerea distinguenda. Long. tot. 4·4 poll., alæ 1·9, caudæ 2·25, tarsi 0·75.

Hab. Mount Victoria, S. Chin Hills, April 11, 1904 (*Col. G. Rippon*).

Dr. SHARPE also described a new species of *Nemosia* from Paraguay, which he called :—

NEMOSIA FOSTERI, n. sp.

♂. Similis *N. guiræ*, sed viridescentior, fronte et supercilio lato læte flavis : plaga aurantiaca præpectorali in medio abdomine extensa.

Hab. Sapucay, Paraguay, March 31, 1904 (*W. Foster*). Type in Brit. Mus.

Mr. COLLINGWOOD INGRAM exhibited an egg of the Marsh-Warbler (*Acrocephalus palustris*), taken by himself in East Kent on the 23rd of June. The nest contained five partly incubated eggs, the remaining four of which had since been hatched. This was believed to be the first authentic instance of the breeding of this species in Kent. The nest was placed on the shoots of a young ash-tree, about three feet from the ground, and was well concealed among nettles and other rank herbage. Externally it was composed entirely of dried grass-stalks and lined with horse-hair and cocoanut fibres, the latter being procured from an adjacent hop-garden.

Mr. INGRAM also called attention to the small rufous-brown nasal plumes at the base of the upper mandible in two specimens of *Parus montanus* which he had procured at Tenda in the Italian Maritime Alps.

Dr. SHARPE, on behalf of Colonel RIPPON, exhibited specimens of the following new species :—

BABAX YUNNANENSIS, n. sp.

Similis *B. lanceolato*, sed macula ad basin rostri posita castanea, nec nigra distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 10·3 poll., culm. 1·1, alæ 3·6, caudæ 4·35, tarsi 1·35.

Hab. Hills east of Leng-yueh, W. Yunnan, 7000 feet (*G. Rippon*). Type in Mus. Brit.

BABAX VICTORIÆ, n. sp.

Similis *B. lanceolato*, sed major, macula genali nigra, pileo rufo, plumis medialiter lato nigro striatis; rostro saturate corneo, pedibus corneis pallidioribus, iride flava. Long. tot. circa 11·0, culm. 1·2, alæ 4·0, caudæ 4·8, tarsi 1·5.

Hab. Mt. Victoria, S. Chin Hills, 9300 feet, April 14, 1904 (*G. Rippon*). Type in Mus. Brit.

IXOPS POLIOTIS, n. sp.

Similis *I. waldeni*, sed pileo nigricante, cristæ plumis nigris, obsolete cinereo fimbriatis, regione parotica schistacea nec dilute cinerea, nigro striolata. Long. tot. circa 8·5, culm. 0·85, alæ 3·7, caudæ 3·3, tarsi 1·3.

Hab. Mt. Victoria, 7000–8000 feet, March 24, 1904 (*G. Rippon*). Type in Mus. Brit.

GARRULUS HARINGTONI, n. sp.

Ad. Similis *G. sinensi*, sed pileo distincte nigro striolato, mento albicante, fronte basali et facie laterali pallidioribus, albicantioribus distinguendus. Long. tot. circa 13·0, culm. 1·3, alæ 7·0, caudæ 5·6, tarsi 1·6.

Hab. Mt. Victoria, S. Chin Hills, 5200 feet, April 26, 1904 (*G. Rippon*). Type in Mus. Brit.

Mr. MEADE-WALDO, Treasurer of the "Kite Fund," stated that when he took over the Secretaryship from Mr. Witherby, early this spring, he at once wrote to Dr. Salter. The latter replied that he considered the subject had been so well ventilated during the last two years that the chances of success were greater than they had been before, provided the watchers were *sufficiently well paid*. So far as he could ascertain, there were three pairs of Kites and one or two odd birds. Later, he wrote to say that there were three nests, but that one had been robbed. On June 21st he wrote that two nests had been well watched night and day, and that each contained two young nearly ready to fly. Mr. Meade-Waldo stated that if these young were allowed to leave the nest in safety the rewards to be paid to the watchers would exhaust all the fund already paid up; but the appeal had been so liberally responded to in the first instance that all the money promised had not been claimed, and he felt sure that when an appeal was again made it would be equally well supported.

The Club passed an unanimous vote of thanks to Dr. Salter for the trouble he had taken.

Mr. Bonhote, as Secretary to the B. O. C. Migration Committee, presented the following Report on the work done during the past season:—

Gentlemen,—

As this is our last Meeting this Session, we think it advisable to lay before you an Interim Report on the result of our work during the Spring Migration, which is just over.

We must first acknowledge with grateful thanks the great assistance and support we have received from observers throughout the country, who have willingly responded to the call made on them and have sent their Schedules carefully filled in weekly.

The Schedules were sent in from March 19th to June 4th, covering a period of just under 3 months, the height of the migration occurring during the weeks ending April 16th, 23rd, and 30th. The earliest migrant to arrive was the Wheatear on the 14th March, closely followed by the Chiffchaff on the 18th of the same month; the latest migrant to arrive was the Nightjar, which, although first recorded during the last week of April, did not really arrive in numbers until the third week in May.

All Schedules as they came in were carefully docketed and filed, their contents extracted, and sketch maps filled in showing the distribution of each species during the week. Some of these maps are brought up for your inspection here to-night.

Short weekly summaries were then made and sent round to each member of the Committee.

It has been arranged to send copies of these summaries to all those who have kindly assisted, but, unfortunately, it has not been possible to get them printed by to-night; they are, however, ready for press and have been brought up for your inspection.

By the kind permission of the Trinity House authorities, the larger Lighthouses and Lightships along the East and South Coasts have been supplied with Schedules, and a large number of wings, for which payment at the rate of 1*d.* a-piece has been made, have been received.

Although all this material has been filed and roughly identified, we have not yet started to work it out.

We propose to continue the Lighthouse observations throughout the year, but not to resume land-operations until the next spring migration.

We now intend to devote ourselves to the careful and systematic working out of all the material received, and hope to lay our full report before you early in the next Session.

As regards the financial aspect, the accounts for the season have not yet been completed, but we may state that after paying up everything there still remains a small balance over from the £20 granted for this purpose, which will, it is hoped, be more than sufficient to cover the cost of printing and sending out the weekly summaries, and thus completing our task for this season.

(Signed) F. G. Penrose. M. J. Nicoll.
H. F. Witherby. J. Lewis Bonhote.
N. F. Ticehurst.

On behalf of the Migration Committee, Mr. H. F. Witherby exhibited the wings and legs of a Grey Shrike, of the form known as *Lanius major,* Pallas, taken at the Newarp Lightship (Essex coast), on April 17, 1905, and of a Black Redstart, *Ruticilla titys,* taken at the Inner Dowsing Light (Norfolk coast), on April 14, 1905.

Dr. F. Penrose proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Witherby and Mr. Bonhote, who, he stated, were really responsible for the whole of the work which had been done by the Committee.

Mr. W. P. Pycraft gave a short account of the results of a careful study of a skeleton of the Musk-Duck (*Biziura lobata*).

The evidence afforded by the osteology of this bird all tended to show that it must be regarded as a primitive type, although in many respects it had undergone considerable specialization, especially as regards the hip-girdle and hind-limb. These, he pointed out, had become very considerably modified by adaptation to diving habits, the transformation being most noticeable in the hip-girdle, which had come to bear a close resemblance to that of *Colymbus* and *Hesperornis*.

As touching the systematic position of this bird, he remarked that it had been placed by Count Salvadori, together with the Ducks of the genera *Erismatura*, *Nomonyx*, and *Thalassornis*, in a separate subfamily, *Erismaturinæ*. But the evidence, as obtained from a study of the skeletons, seemed to show that the subfamily might very well be merged in the *Fuligulinæ*. On the other hand, the genera *Harelda*, *Histrionicus*, *Œdemia*, *Heniconetta*, *Arctonetta*, *Somateria*, and *Erionetta*, might very properly be removed from the *Fuligulinæ* and placed in a separate subfamily *Somateriinæ*.

The next Meeting of the Club will be held on Wednesday, the 18th of October, 1905, at the Restaurant Frascati, 32 Oxford Street; the Dinner at 7 p.m. Members of the Club intending to dine are requested to inform Mr. Witherby, at 326 High Holborn, W.C.

[N.B.—Members who intend to make any communication at the next meeting of the Club are requested to give notice *beforehand* to the Editor, also to supply him with a *written* account of anything intended for publication.]

(Signed)

P. L. Sclater, *Chairman.*	W. R. Ogilvie-Grant, *Editor.*	H. F. Witherby, *Sec. & Treas.*

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